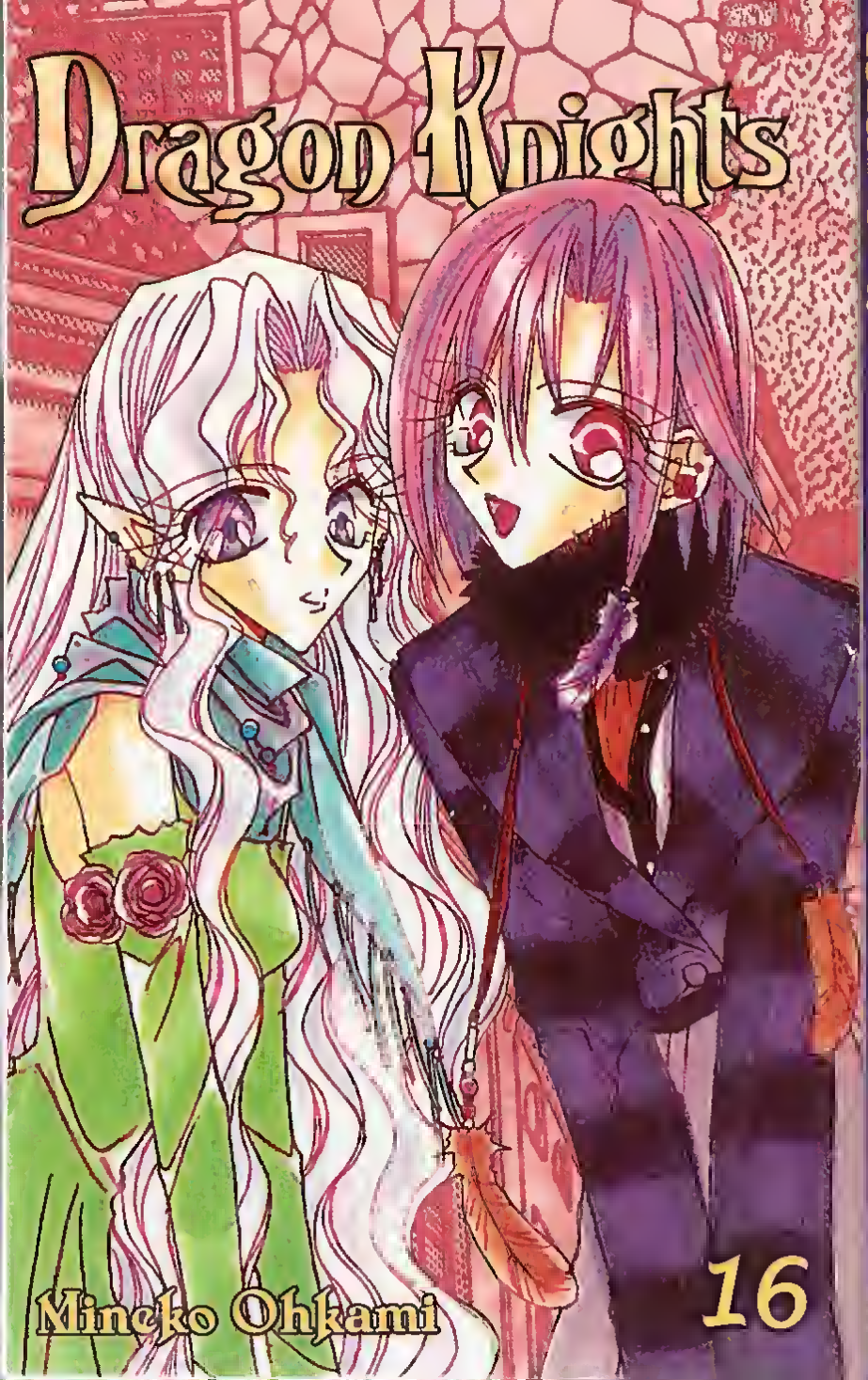
Dragon Knights



Mineko Ohkami

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TOKYOPOP®

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DRAGON KNIGHTS 16

押上美猫

Mineko Ohkami

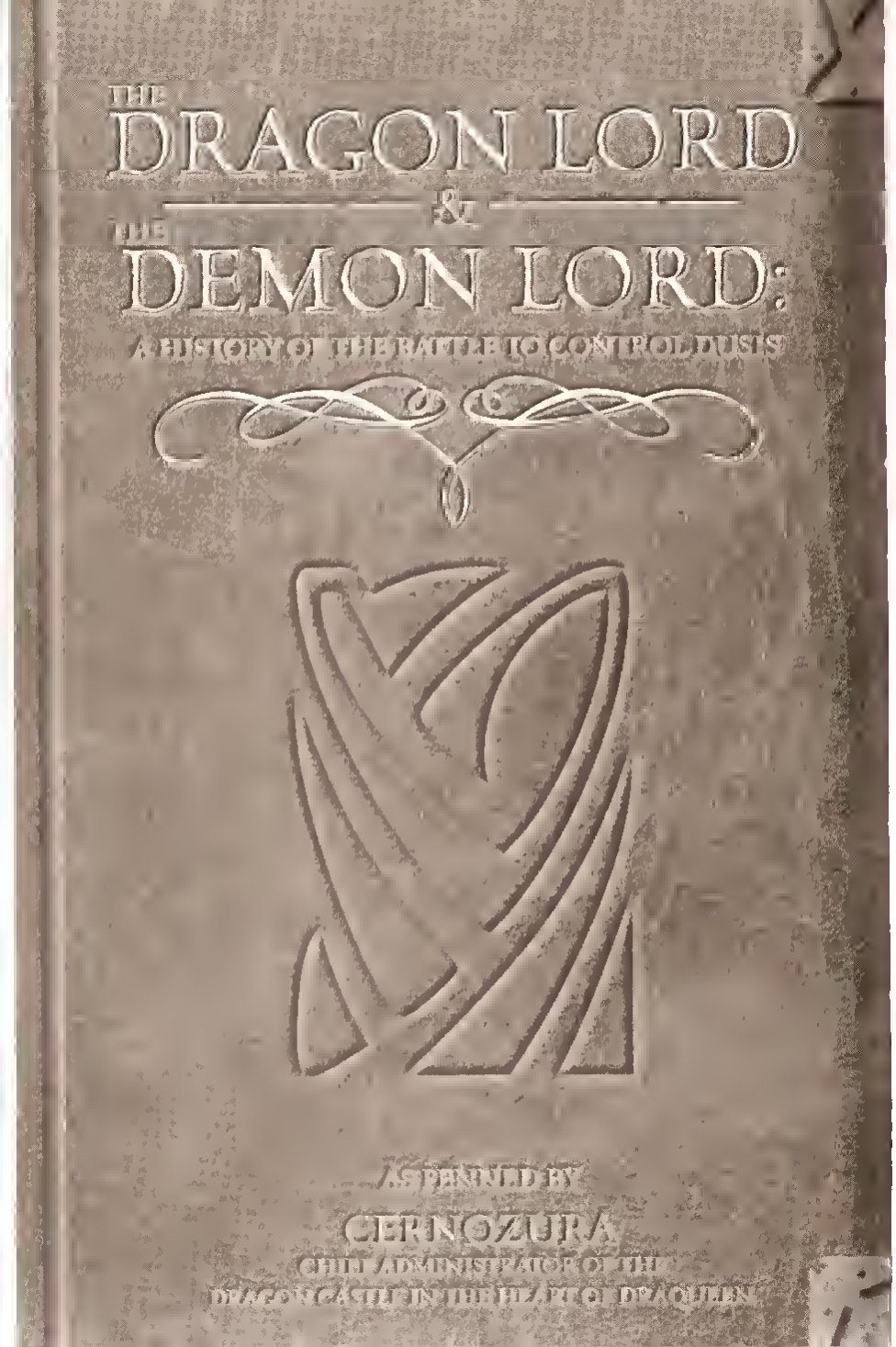
Dragon Knights

Written and Illustrated by
Mineko Ohkami

Volume 16

TOKYOPOP®

HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO



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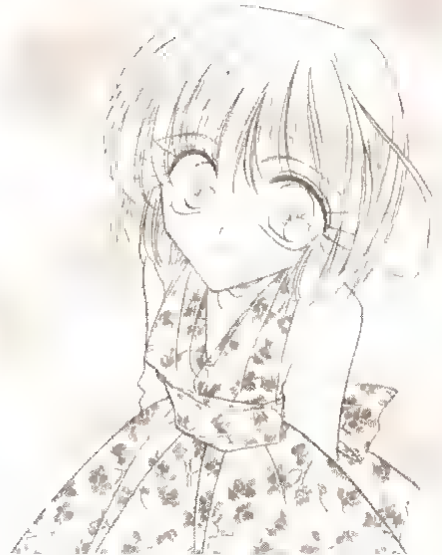
Rune's battle with the wicked Lim Raana proved short, with Lim Raana fleeing the sword of the Dragon Knight of Water before the good blade met with her neck. Unable to leave his beloved to such a cruel fate, Rune steadfastly vowed to rescue her. Still possessing Tintlet's body, the noble elf promised to reunite with his two compatriots after finding her spirit and stealing her memory back from Lim Raana.

A Chance Encounter

On a quest to retrieve three powerful treasures for Lord Lykouleon, the thief Ritchel and her faerie companion Ringleys, after successfully obtaining the prizes, have also found themselves traversing Raunaldia. Having previously endeavored to make haste back to Draqueen, the pair now find themselves unexpectedly journeying towards that which they once fled-Nadil's castle. Their reason is, to say the least, a remarkable one. Fortuitously running across Zoma Cesta's dear friend and companion who himself is undertaking a separate mission to save Cesta, the trio now travel together, determined to assist each other in attaining their goals. Even more miraculously, Zoma possesses the spirit of Tintlet, having discovered it while bridging the ether between the Dragon Realm and Demon Realm. Oh, were it but in my power to send quick word to our Knight of Water, I would do so in the greatest haste, so that he could rejoin with his companions in their fateful and glorious mission. But it is not, so I do wait with all of Draqueen for news of Rune and the rest of our heroic emissaries.



The Keeper of the Tome

My name is Cernozura and I am the chief administrator for the Dragon Castle, Draqueen, in the heart of Dragoon, the Dragon Kingdom. Within these pages I will attempt to chronicle the events of yesteryear in the hopes that it will in turn offer some future understanding of the chaos that currently befalls us. I feel it's imperative that I record a comprehensive history of the events that have led to this dark hour, for I fear that none will remain to tell the tale. My only hope is that this tome may survive so that future generations will know of the valiance of the Dragon Tribe.

Rise of the Demon Lord

Our worst fears have come to pass. The Demon Lord Nadil has been resurrected and he has stolen from the bosom of our care the fortuneteller Cesta, who harbors an incredible magic that we have only just begun to witness. In the service of a villain as pernicious as Nadil, Cesta, whether against her will or willingly giving in to the seductive charm of the dreaded Demon Lord, may prove to be the most dangerous threat we've faced.

Three Knights, Two Missions, One Nation United in Fear

The Dragon Knights have been dispatched to Raunaldia, the kingdom of the Demon Lord, charged with rescuing Cesta from the wretched grip of Nadil. While their countrymen wait in terror, besieged by countless followers of the Demon Lord, our brave warriors have themselves been besieged by challenges grave enough to threaten their very existence. At last, one has proven too difficult to overcome, effectively cleaving our small band in two. Upon encountering his beloved Tintlet wandering the forests of Raunaldia, Rune soon made a horrific discovery. Intending to trap the Dragon Knight of Water and steal the power of Varawoo from within him, the demon Lim Raana ravaged the faerie leader, robbing her of her spirit and memories. The body found by the Dragon Knights was nothing more than a hollow shell, and while the demon remained in possession of Tintlet's memory, her spirit had been lost.

The Villains of Dragon Knights

Nadil

The evil and justly feared Demon Lord Nadil had been slain by the Dragon Lord but his body was recently retrieved and resurrected by his loyal army Now he once again presides over the Demon Realm hungry for revenge

Demon Officers

Shydeman

One of Nadil's generals Shydeman led the successful attack on Draquean that brought back the Demon Lord

Shyrendora

Another general Shyrendora is sister to Shydeman and also to Tetheus who fights against her as one of the Dragon Officers

Fedelta

Answering directly to Shydeman Fedelta has become one of the most vicious officers in the Demon Army

Lady Medichea

Another officer in Nadil's army Medichea has an ongoing rivalry with Fedelta

Other Enemies

Bierrez

The infamous rogue demon Bierrez's loyalties lie not with the Demon Lord but with himself

Saabel

The so-called "Collector of Corpses" Saabel possesses the ability to reanimate the dead into puppets he controls

Lim Kaana

A feisty little demon charged with stealing Varawoo's power from Rune

Khart

The Renkin Wizard Khart is an alchemist capable of creating demons He has fathered legions of them including Faith

Garfakey

Khart's human assistant Garfakey is snivelly and insidious He wishes to become a demon a desire Khart has repeatedly dismissed

The Heroes of Dragon Knights

Lord Lykouleon

The beloved Dragon Lord Lykouleon is the sovereign ruler of Dragoon The resources of the Dragon Clan and the might of the Dragon Army are at his command

Lady Raseleane

Lykouleon's queen the Lady Raseleane was rendered barren by the Demon Lord and unable to provide Lykouleon with an heir

Dragon Officers

Harnessing the power of the five Dragon Balls the Dragon Officers should number five strong but after the Demon Army's assault on Draquean only two officers remain

Ruwalk

The Yellow Dragon Officer and Secretary of State

Tetheus

The Black Dragon Officer and Secretary of Security

Cernozura

The Dragon Castle Administrator Cernozura is also a self appointed castle historian

Dragon Knights

Rath

The Dragon Knight of Fire, Rath is part Yokai and lives for killing demons.

Thatz

The Dragon Knight of Earth the human Thatz was once a thief and his love for gold hasn't abated

Rune

The Dragon Knight of Water Rune is an elf and has abilities the other two Dragon Knights lack

Other Allies

Cesia

A half demon fortuneteller with the ability to enhance the power of those in close proximity to her

Zoma

Cesia's demon friend and companion

Tintlet

A faerie who has sacrificed much for her beloved Rune and her dying race

Krichel

Another Rune loyalist to Lykouleon Krichel possesses the powerful Three Treasures and is trying to get them to Draquean

Ringleys

A faerie who was rescued from a demon and now accompanies Krichel

Delte

Lykouleon's human fortuneteller

Star Princess

Not much is known about this powerful princess but she has assisted Rath on several occasions

Grimfish

The Star Princess's bodyguard Both the Princess and Grimfish seem to be friendly to Lykouleon's cause

Nohiro

A human on a mission to save the dying faerie race Has assisted Rune in the past

DUSIS
Mt Emphaza
Yuba
GLACIOSA
Bertha Forest
KAINALDIA
Rimune
Cezarri
Nadie's Castle
Costa Rica
MEMPHIS
Misty Valley
Mirattе
HERMOSA
Faerie Forest
Chantel
Fiori
Fiori Forest
Lua
KUULTA
Draquhen
DRAGOON
Luuza
N
Poles
Cave of the Three Treasures
ARINAS

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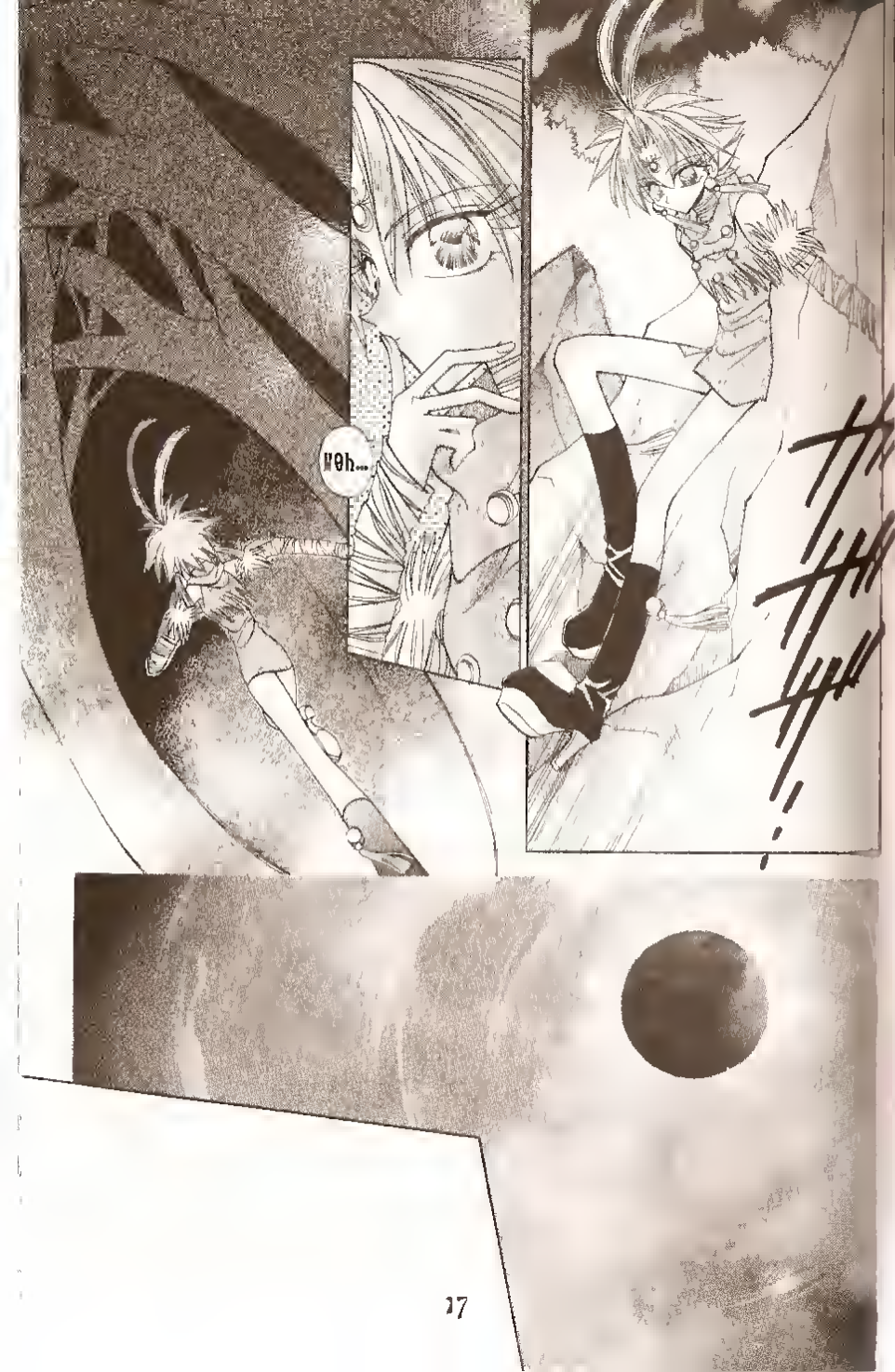
Dragon Knights: A World Away.....13

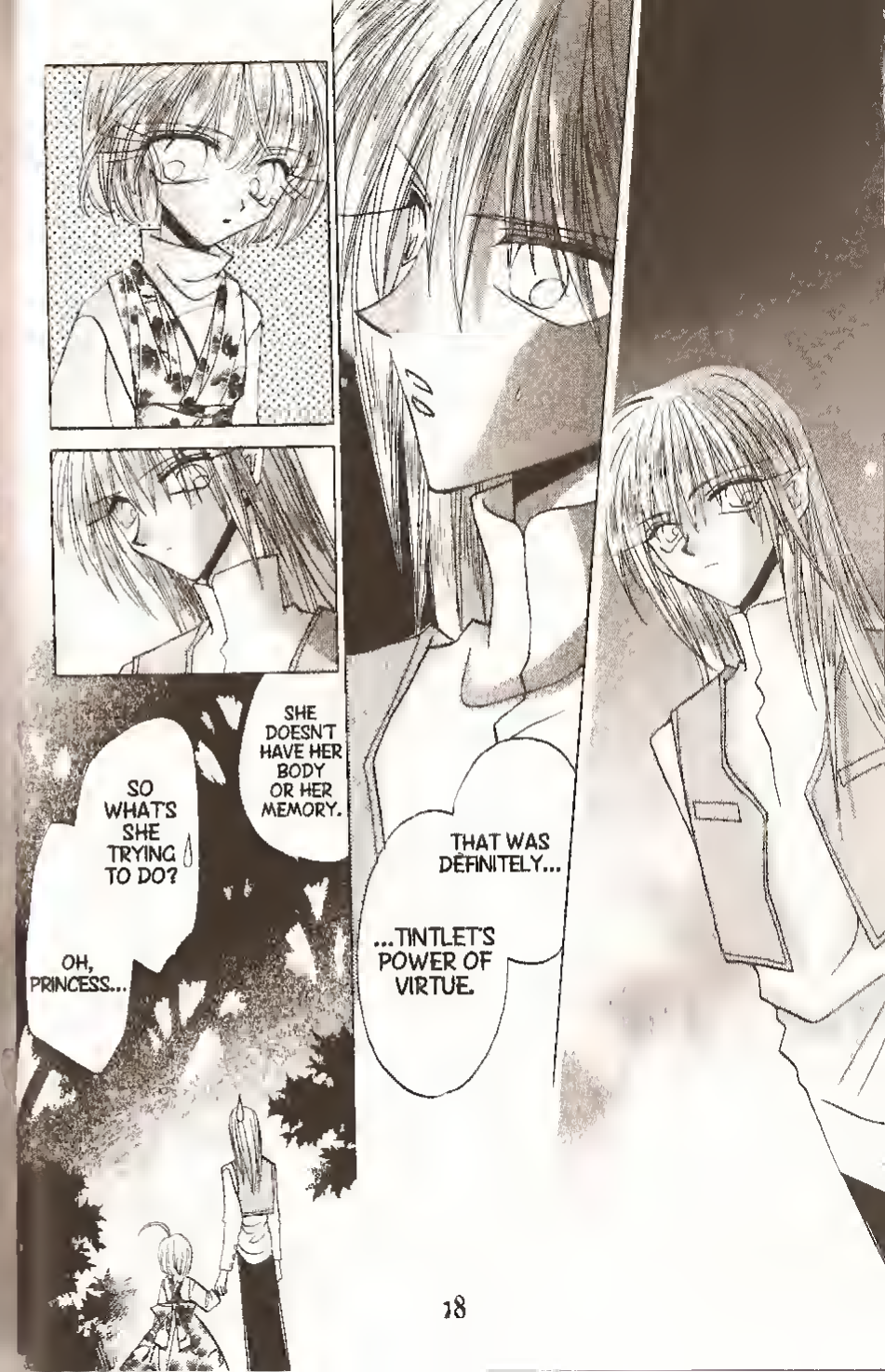
機動戦士ガンダム
THE ORIGIN
安彦良和


Woh...

IT'S COMING FROM THAT DIREC-TION.
SURE SMELLS LIKE IT.
UGH...
WHAT IS THIS I'M FEELING? IS IT TINTLET'S POWER OF VIRTUE?

ENOUGH TALK. TIME TO FIND US A FAERIE.
I'M SURPRISED TINTLET IS ABLE TO USE HER POWERS WITHOUT A BODY OR MEMORY.
WHATEVER. IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S GONNA BE A PROBLEM.

カチ
19

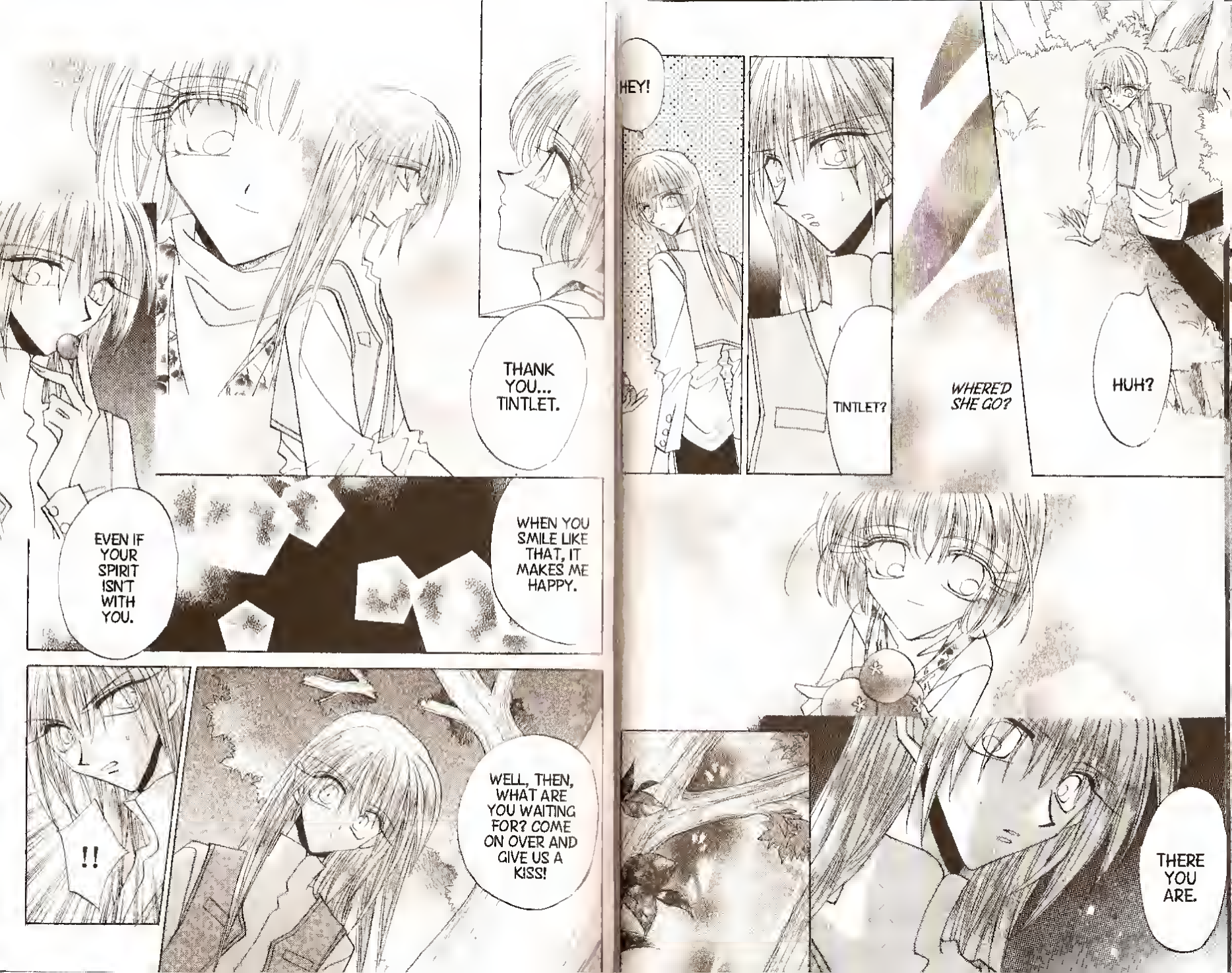

SHE DOESN'T HAVE HER BODY OR HER MEMORY.
SO WHAT'S SHE TRYING TO DO?
OH, PRINCESS...
THAT WAS DEFINITELY...
...TINTLET'S POWER OF VIRTUE.
18

BE CAREFUL.
THAT WATER IS POISON.
QUIT WORRYING. IT DOESN'T WORK ON DEMONS.
I KNOW.
I see.
ALL THIS IS REVIVAL WATER?
THERE'S SO MUCH OF IT.

WHERE IS IT?

I THOUGHT IF WE RETURNED TO THE FLOATING ROCK, I MIGHT FIND SOME CLUES.
IT WAS HERE EARLIER.
AH, I GIVE UP. THE ROCKS GONE.
SO NOW WHAT?
BUT WHERE IS IT?

OF COURSE, THIS IS KAINALDIA.
THERE SHOULD BE A LOT OF IT.
ゴゴゴン ゴゴゴン ゴゴゴン


HUH?
WHERE'D SHE GO?
HEY!
TINTLET?
THERE YOU ARE.
THANK YOU... TINTLET.
WHEN YOU SMILE LIKE THAT, IT MAKES ME HAPPY.
EVEN IF YOUR SPIRIT ISN'T WITH YOU.
!!
WELL, THEN, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? COME ON OVER AND GIVE US A KISS!

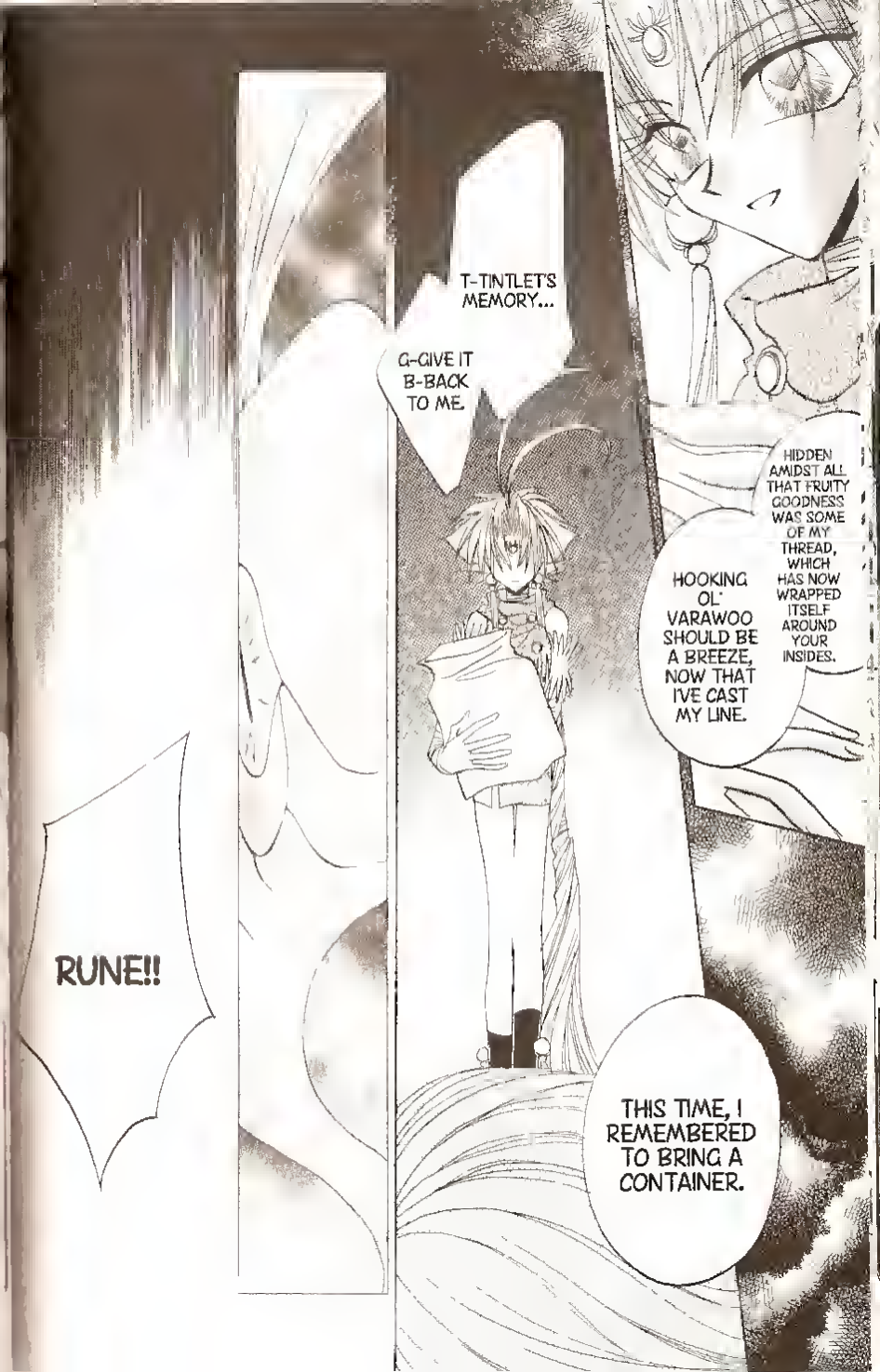
C'MON!
YOU SAID YOU LIKE TO SEE ME SMILING. I'M SMILING! SEE?
HEY RUN!
...WHADDYA SAY WE GO FISHING AGAIN, EH?
I KNOW A PLACE WHERE WE CAN CATCH A WHOPPER!
TELL ME SOMETHING. DOES ABSORBING A DEMON FISH GIVE YOU HEARTBURN?
HEH...
BEING SEALED UP FOR ALL THAT TIME HAS SURE LEFT ME FEELING FRISKY!
LIM KAANA!
LET'S GO, TINTLET!

IT'S EASY.
IF YOU LIKE TO SEE HER SMILING, RUNE, I CAN MAKE HER SMILE.
NO THANKS.
カクン
WELL, I CAN DO THIS, TOO.

I TOLD YOU I CONTROL THAT DOLL.
I'M PULLING HER STRINGS.
LIM KAANA!!
OH, POOP. YOU REMEMBERED.
YOU SEE?

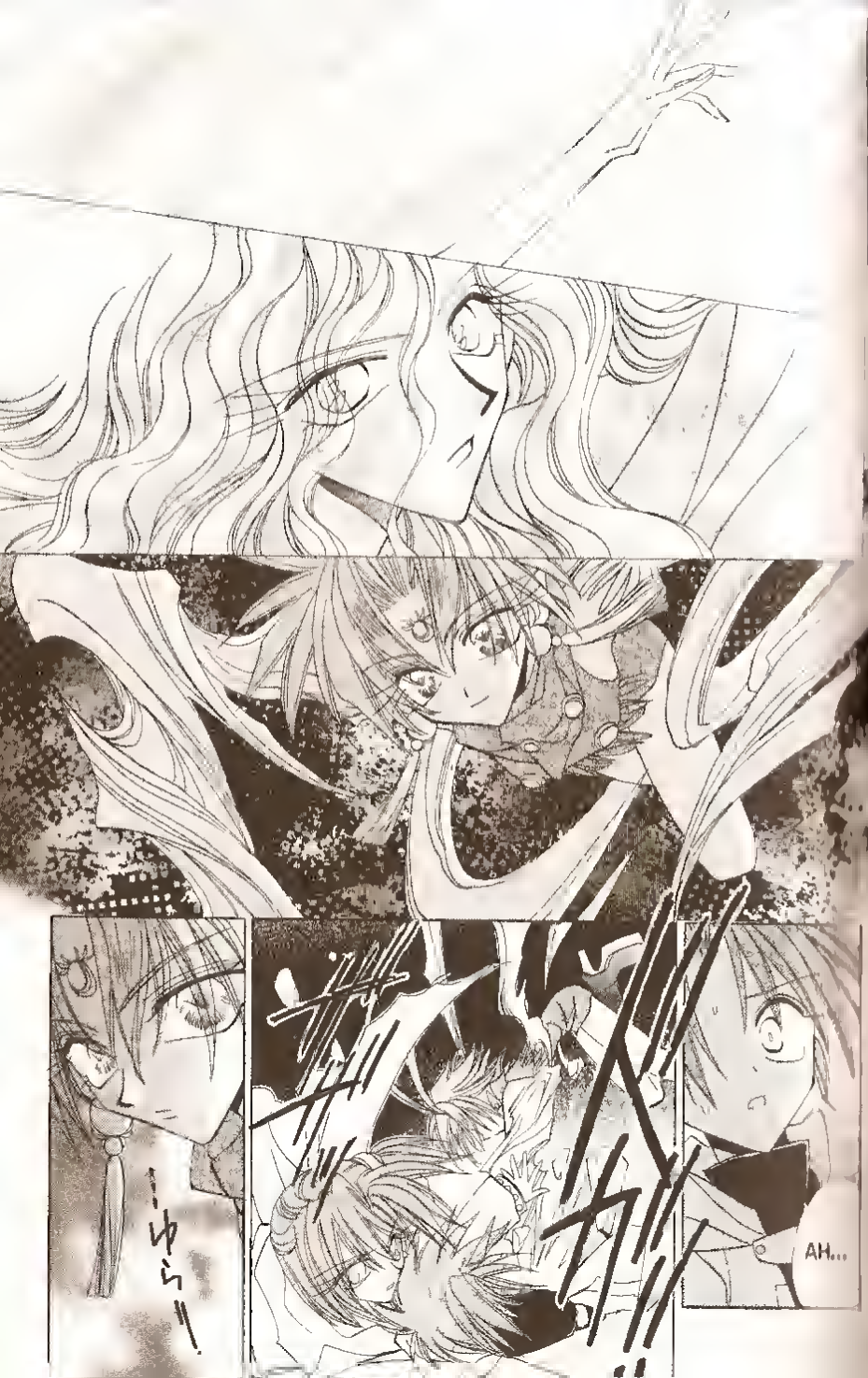
LEAST I CAN DO.
...BUT SHE'S NOT!
SHE MAY LOOK LIKE TINTLET...
YOU SEE, UNLIKE OTHER DEMONS, I DO MY HOMEWORK. WHEN WE TURNED YOUR FRIEND SILK INTO A DEMON, YOU COULDN'T KILL HER. EASY GUESS THAT THE SAME WOULD APPLY TO YOUR BELOVED TINTLET.
ACK...
HUUGH...
DON'T BLAME HER.
THIS ONE'S ALL ME, BABY.
T-TINTLET...
HUH!
BUT YOU'RE A NICE KID. I'LL GIVE YOU ANOTHER SMILE, FREE OF CHARGE.
!?
OH, YES...
ONE MORE THING.
Y'KNOW THAT FRUIT TINTLET GAVE YOU? HOPE YOU DIDN'T EAT TOO MUCH OF IT...
...'CUZ IT'S BOUND TO DISAGREE WITH YOU.
Heh, heh...

TINTLET!!
WHO BROUGHT THE TSUNAMI?!
WHAT?!


RUNE!!
T-TINTLET'S MEMORY...
G-GIVE IT B-BACK TO ME.
HOOKING OL' VARAWOO SHOULD BE A BREEZE, NOW THAT I'VE CAST MY LINE.
HIDDEN AMIDST ALL THAT FRUITY GOODNESS WAS SOME OF MY THREAD, WHICH HAS NOW WRAPPED ITSELF AROUND YOUR INSIDES.
THIS TIME, I REMEMBERED TO BRING A CONTAINER.

TINTLET'S SPIRIT!!
I SEE IT!
I'VE FOUND IT!
IT'S RIGHT THERE!!
OH NO!
WHY?
AAAH!
WHY IS SHE COMING TOWARDS ME?!
ZOMA!!

RUNE!!
バシャ バシャ
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
RUNE!!
IT'S HERE.


AH...

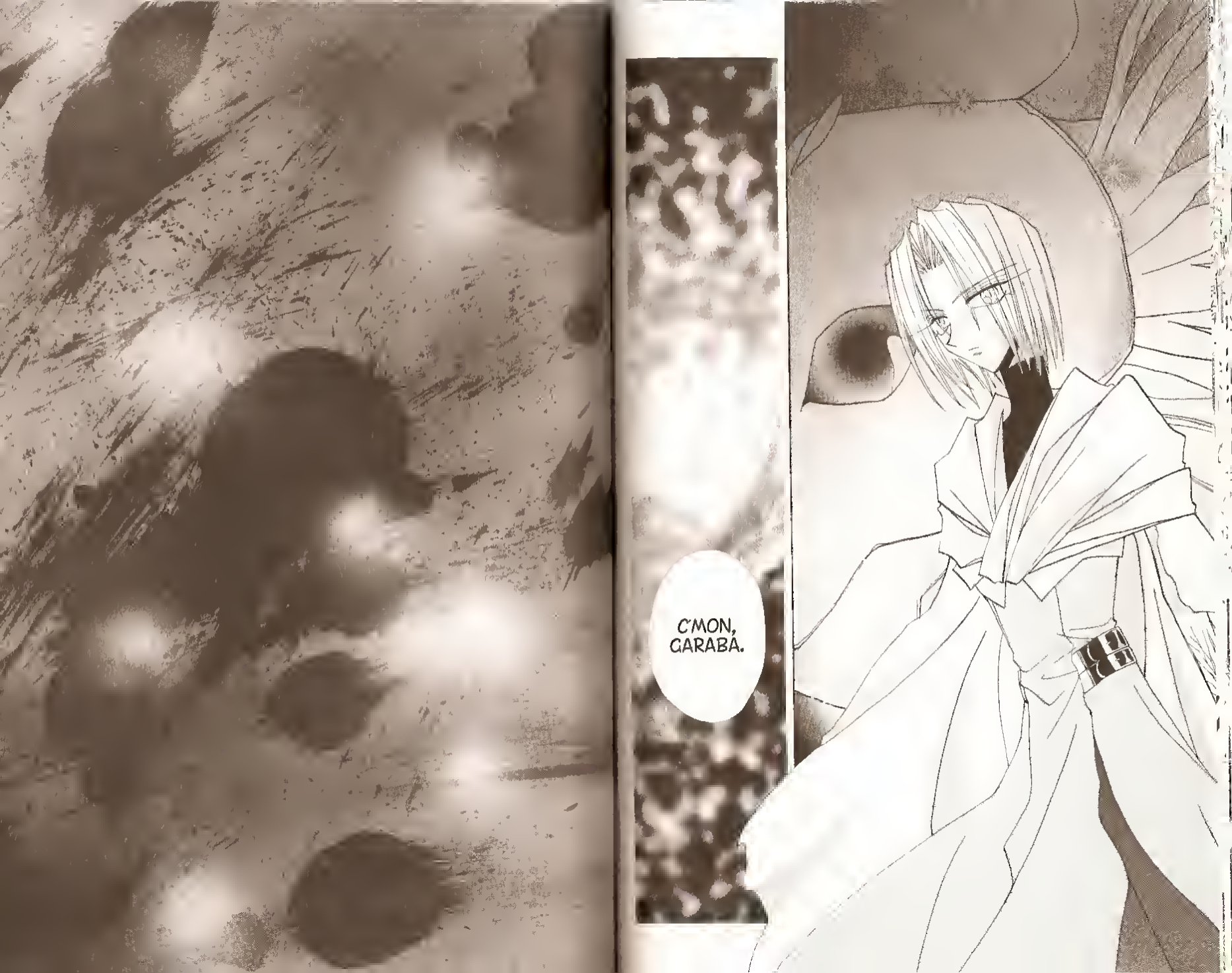
TINTLET!

LIM KAANA!!
YES?
HEY, I FORGOT ALL ABOUT TINTLET'S BODY!
OKAY, THIS IS STARTING TO GET BORING.
GIVE ME THE DAMN FISH, ALREADY!
YOU KNOW... I'VE SEEN HER BEFORE.
I think it was at the dragon castle.
HER BODY?

YOU'RE A DEMON TOO, AREN'T YOU?
BUT WHY ARE YOU SCARED?
THIS IS BAD.
SHE'S A DEMON, ISN'T SHE?
BUT-BUT-BUT SHE WAS KICKING RUNE'S BUTT! I CAN'T COMPETE WITH THAT!
ANSWER ME!
YOU'VE GOT HER SPIRIT, DON'T YOU?
YOU DODGED.
WEIRD...
SOMETHING'S HAPPENING.

YOU'RE RIGHT.
WHICH MEANS IT'S ONLY HER MEMORY THAT I'LL NEED TO BEAT OUT OF YOU.
UH-OH... SOMEONE LOOKS MAD.
SCHING
RELEASE TINTLET.
BUT IF I DID THAT, SHE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO MOVE ANYMORE.
THAT MEANS NO SMILES.
WE'VE FOUND HER SPIRIT. SHE'LL BE FINE.

!!
Rune!
Look! The sky!
SOMETHING'S COMING OUT!!
WHAT IS IT?


C'MON, GARABA.

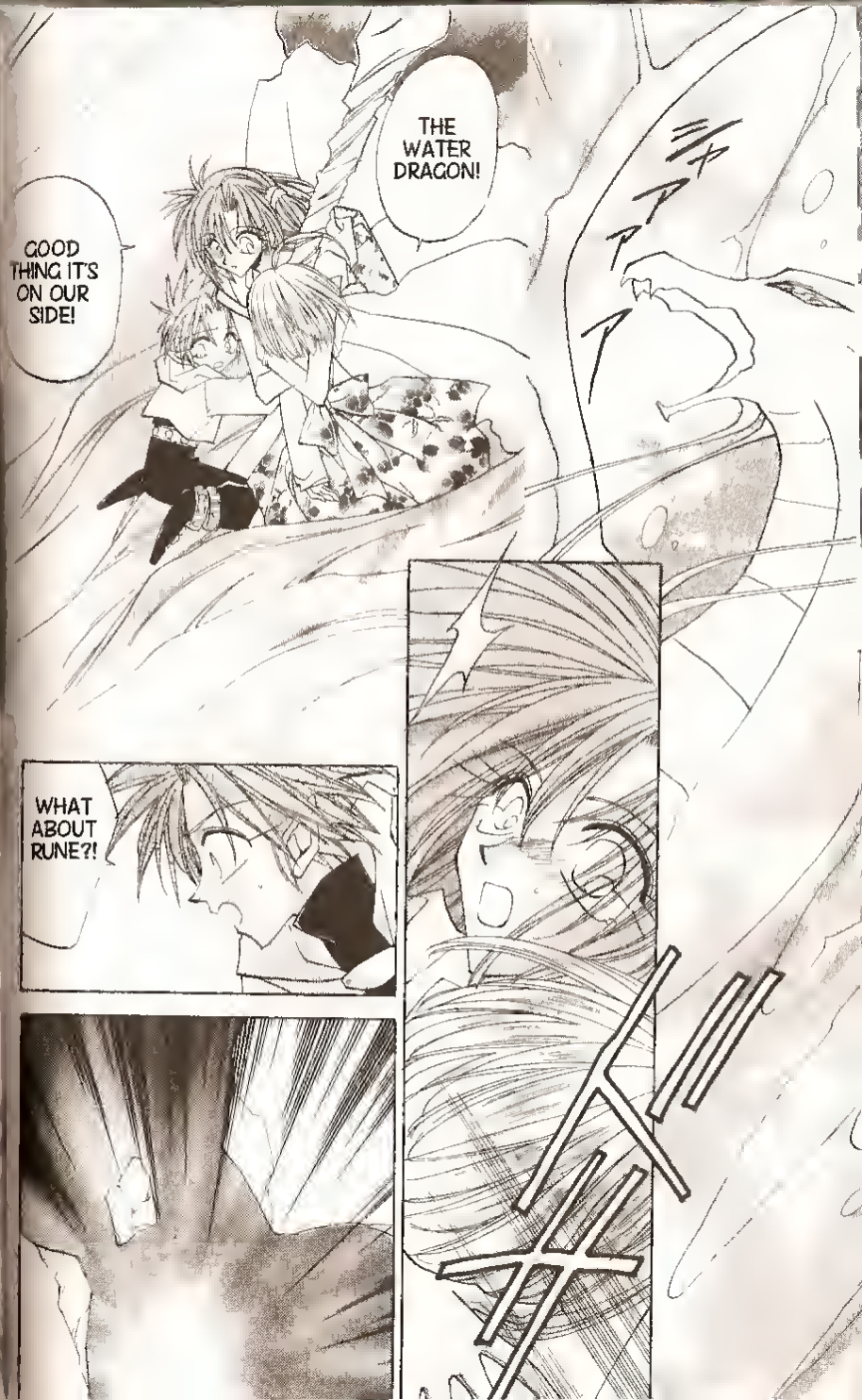
THE FLOATING ROCK IS...
...GONE?!
SPEECHLESS...
YEP.
THIS IS THE SAME PLACE WE SAW IT EARLIER, RIGHT?

HUH.
LOOK.
WHAT IS IT?

WATER!!

WAIT A MINUTE...
WHY'D YOU DO THAT?!
I MADE THOSE CARVINGS THE LAST TIME WE WERE HERE. THIS IS THE RIGHT PLACE!
SO WHERE DOES A GIANT FLOATING ROCK DISAPPEAR TO?

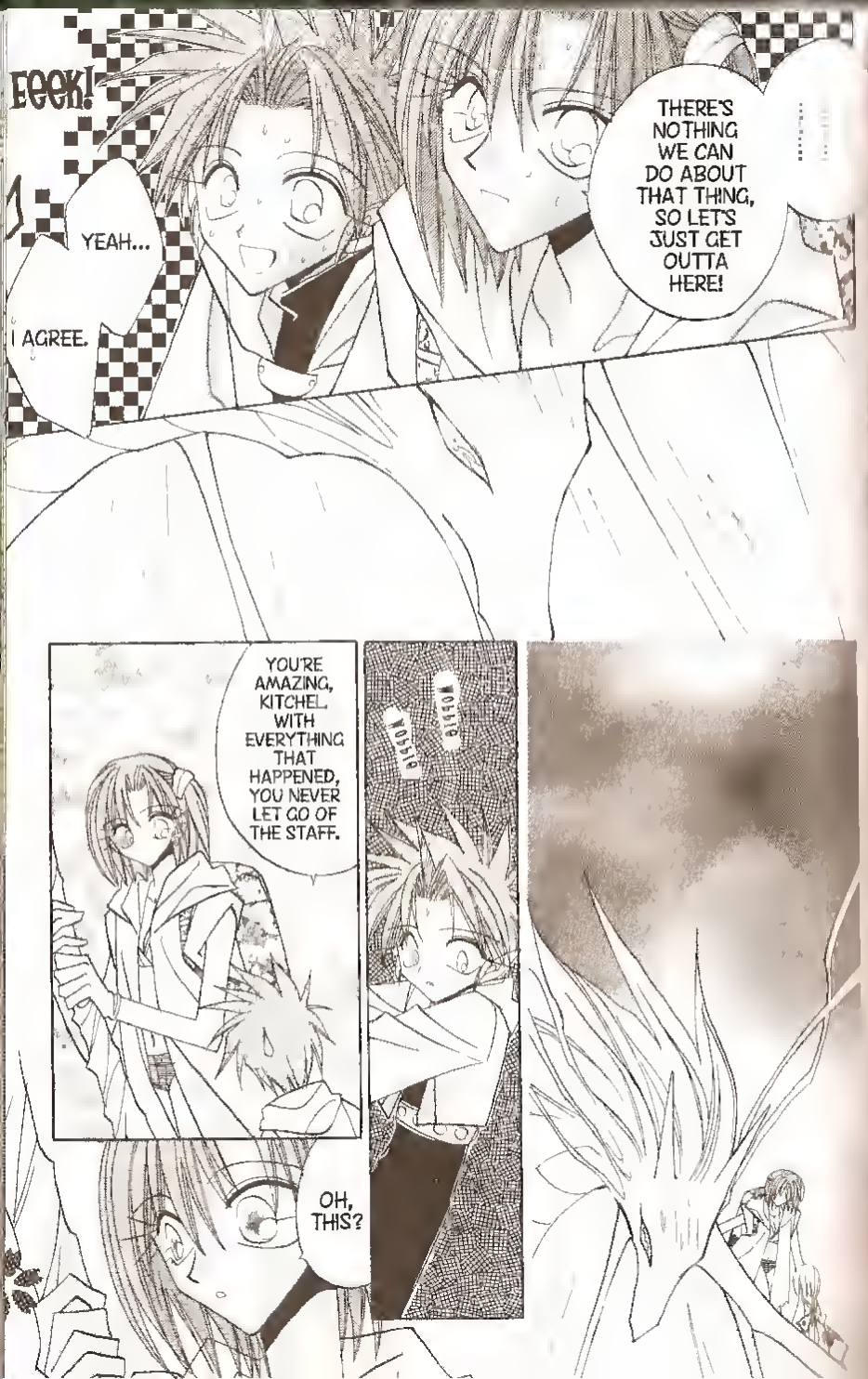
WHAT?
WHAT?!
WHAT?!!
IT LOOKS LIKE A BUNCH OF GIANT ARMS REACHING DOWN FROM THE SKY!
!
WHAT IS IT?!


THE WATER DRAGON!
GOOD THING IT'S ON OUR SIDE!
ミャアアア
WHAT ABOUT RUNE?!

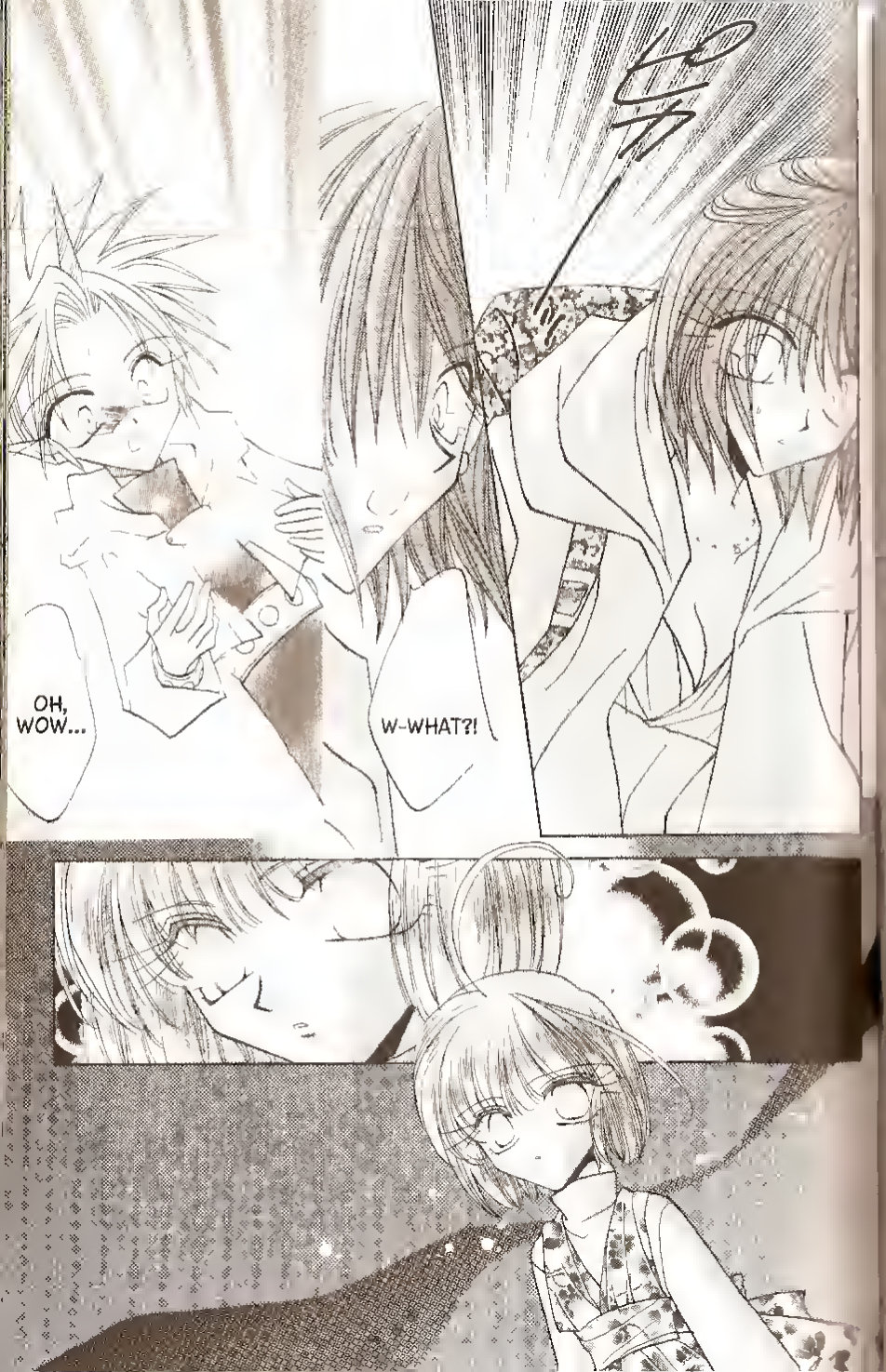
ARE THEY ALL RIGHT?
UH... HEY...

IS YOUR GIRLFRIEND'S MEMORY REALLY WORTH SO MUCH TO YOU THAT YOU'D SAVE MY LIFE?!
YOU'RE A FOOL!
I'LL NEVER GIVE IT TO YOU!
LIM KAANA!

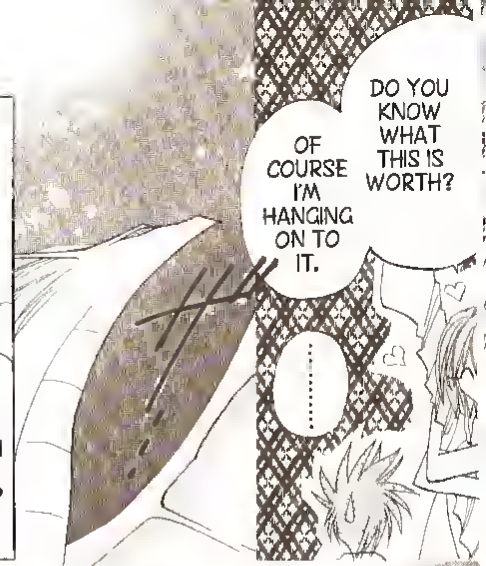
!

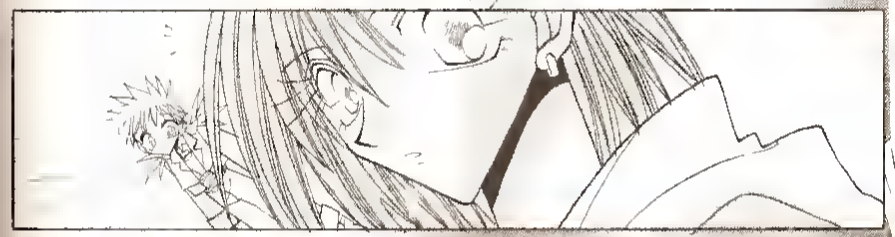

Eeek!
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT THAT THING, SO LET'S JUST GET OUTTA HERE!
YEAH...
I AGREE.
YOU'RE AMAZING, KITCHEL. WITH EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED, YOU NEVER LET GO OF THE STAFF.
OH, THIS?

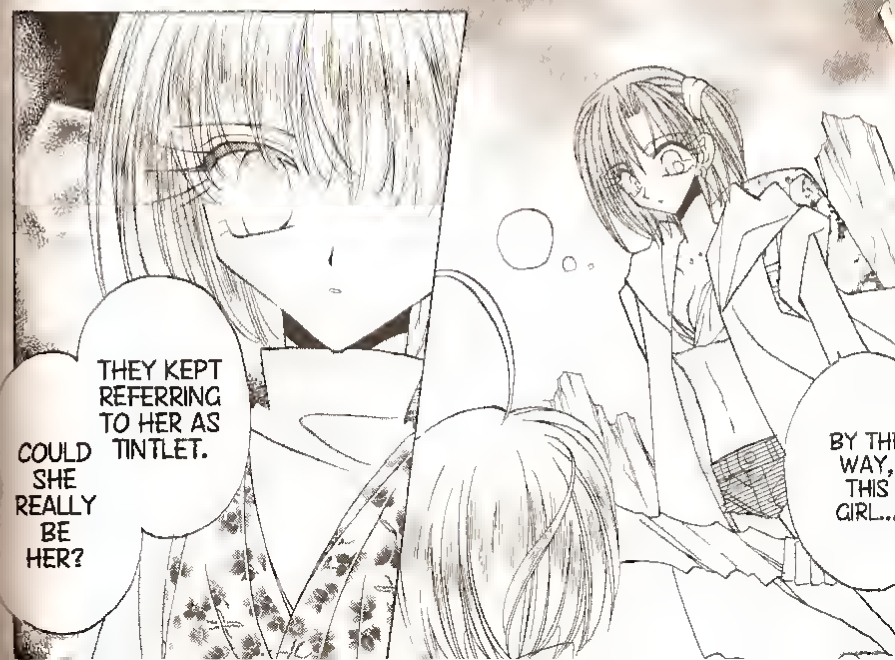
THAT ARM...
IT'S GOING INTO THE WHIRL-POOL!


OH, WOW...
W-WHAT?!

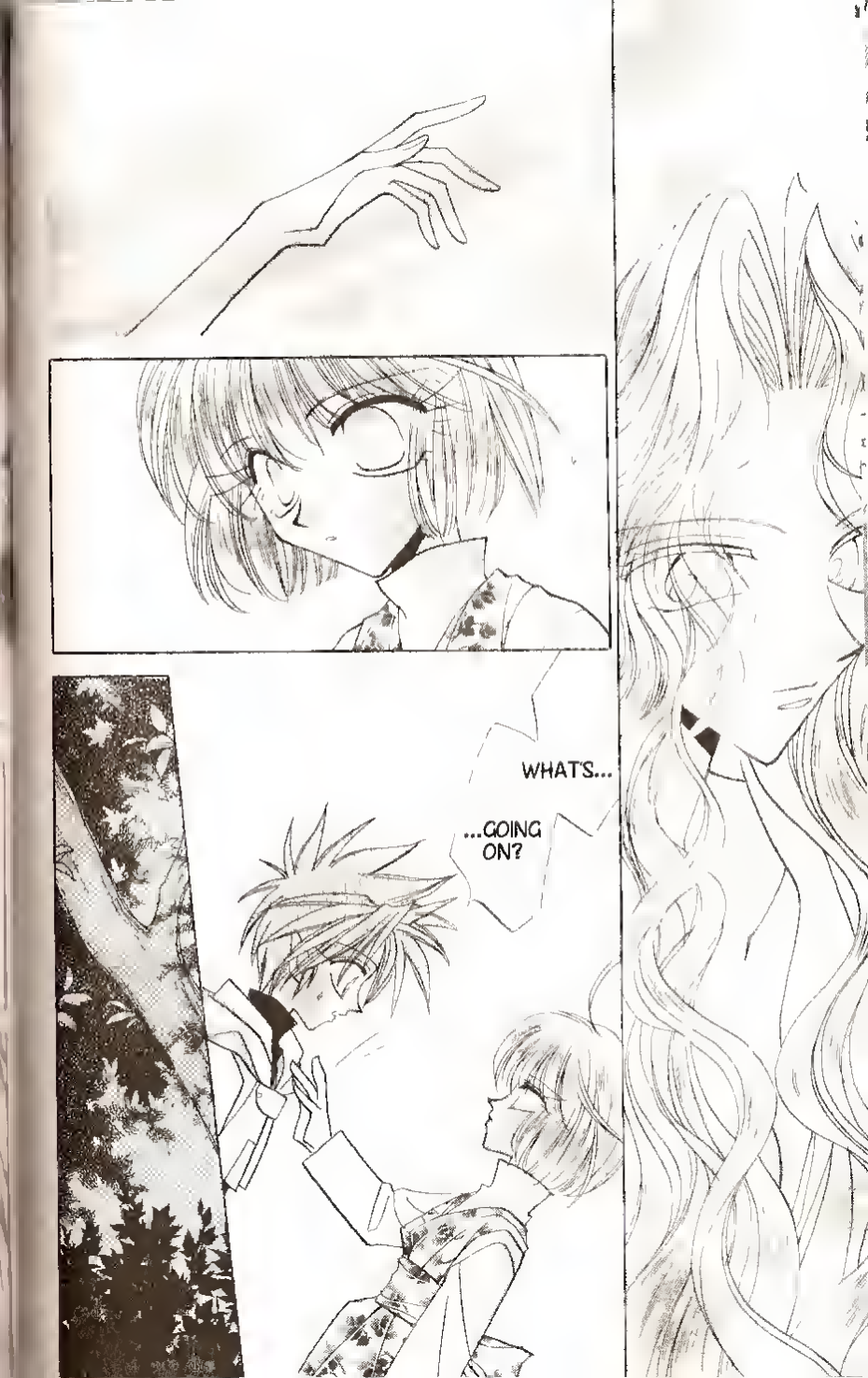
PROBABLY.
IS THE DRAGON GOING TO HELP RUNE?

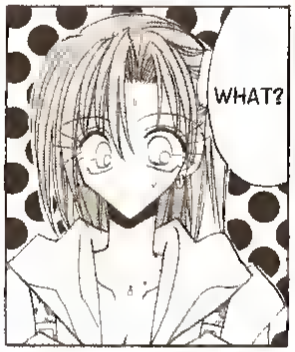

DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS IS WORTH?
OF COURSE I'M HANGING ON TO IT.
.....



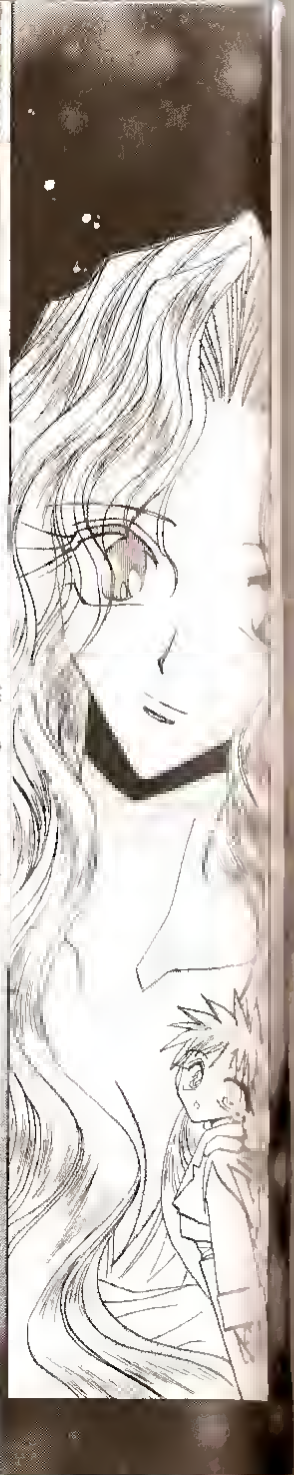

COULD SHE REALLY BE HER?
THEY KEPT REFERRING TO HER AS TINTLET.
BY THE WAY, THIS GIRL...

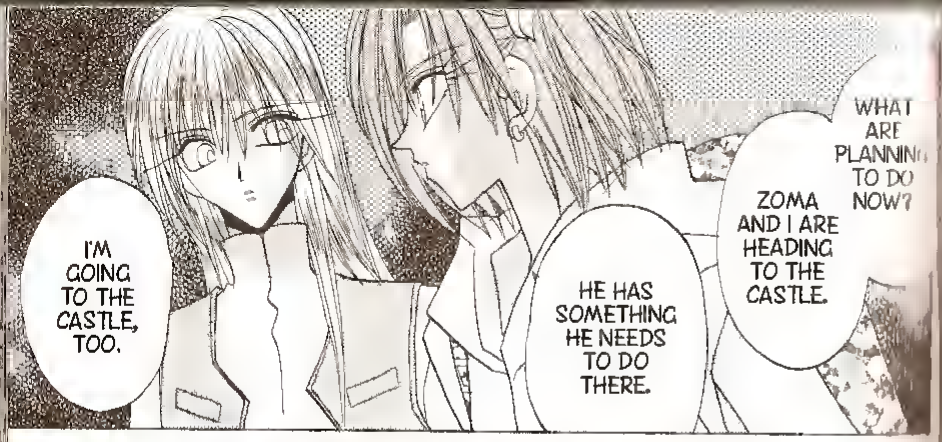
...SHE'S ESCAPED.
I MUST GO FIND HER.
WATER...
I NEVER SHOULD HAVE GOT HER INVOLVED IN ANY OF THIS.

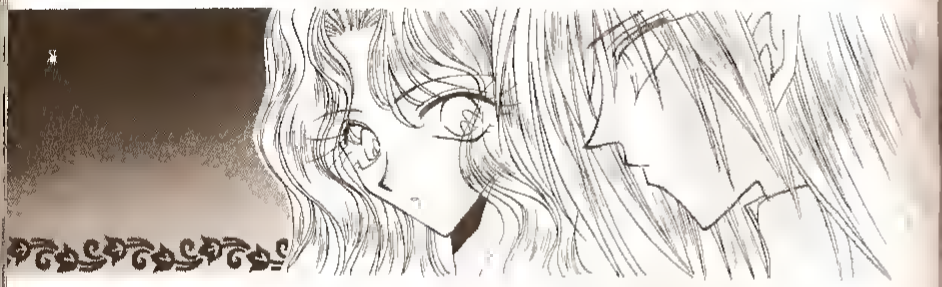

WHAT'S...
...GOING ON?

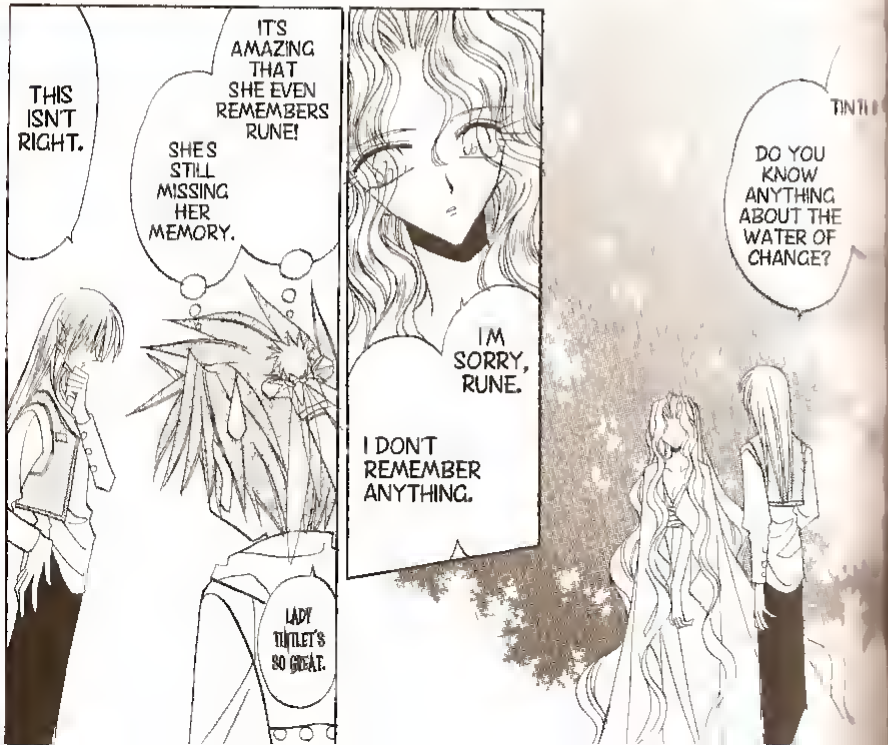

WHAT?

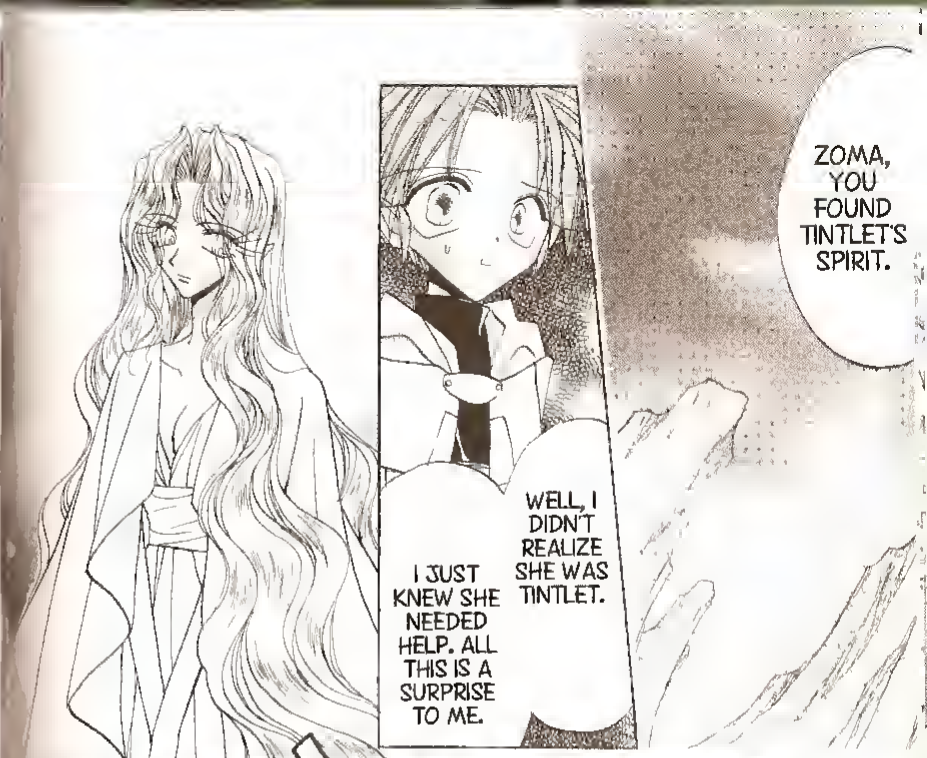
Who turned on all the lights?!
ZOMA AND KINGSLEY ARE HIDING BACK HERE.
WHAT A STRANGE GROUP OF PEOPLE.
Maybe I'm the one out of place.

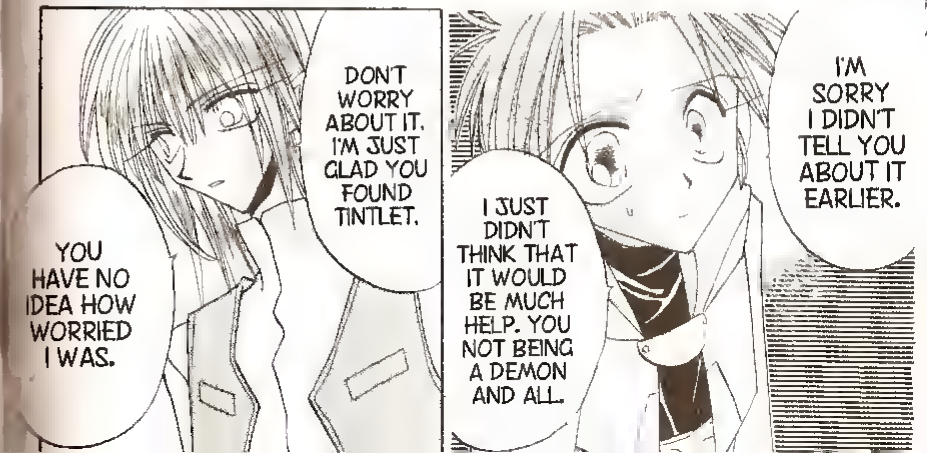



I'M GOING TO THE CASTLE, TOO.
HE HAS SOMETHING HE NEEDS TO DO THERE.
ZOMA AND I ARE HEADING TO THE CASTLE.
WHAT ARE PLANNING TO DO NOW?



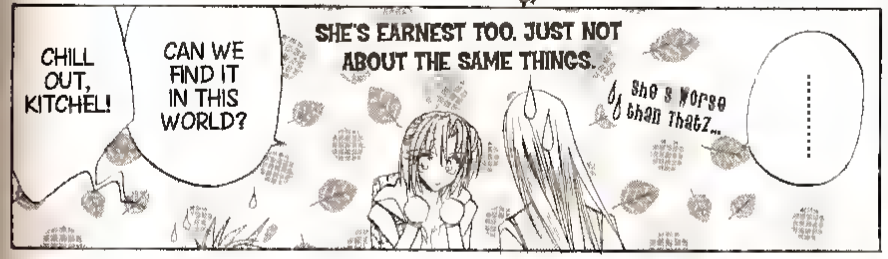

THIS ISN'T RIGHT.
IT'S AMAZING THAT SHE EVEN REMEMBERS RUNE!
SHE'S STILL MISSING HER MEMORY.
LADY TINTLET'S SO GREAT.
I'M SORRY, RUNE.
I DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING.
TINTLET
DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE WATER OF CHANGE?

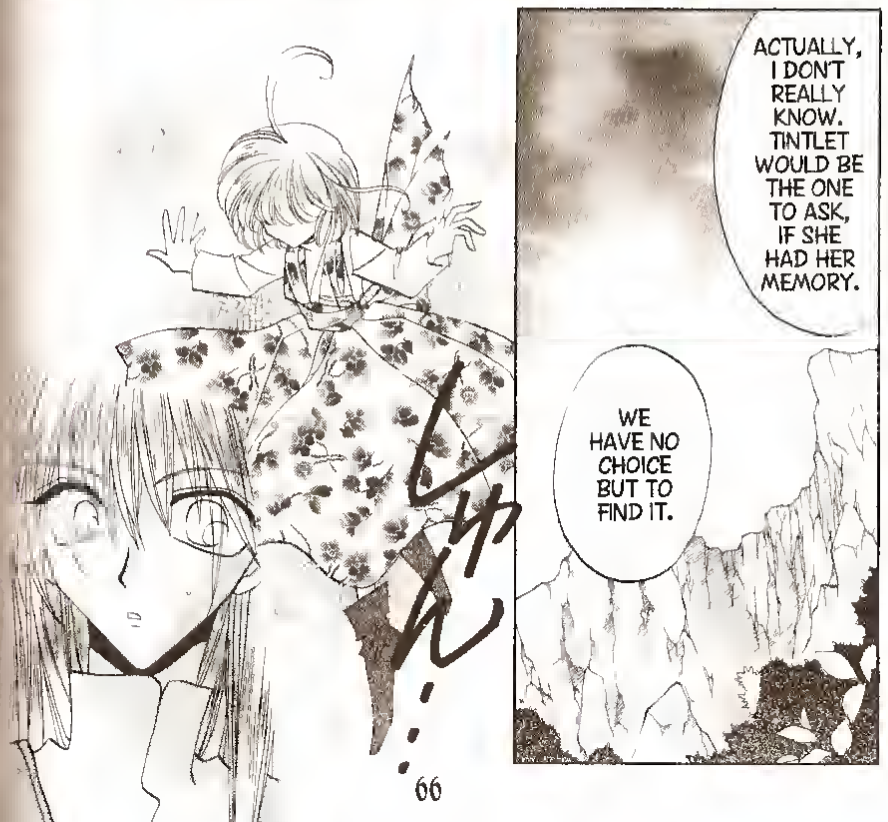

ZOMA, YOU FOUND TINTLET'S SPIRIT.
WELL, I DIDN'T REALIZE SHE WAS TINTLET.
I JUST KNEW SHE NEEDED HELP. ALL THIS IS A SURPRISE TO ME.
I USED THE PORTAL IN THE LAKE THAT CONNECTS DRAQUEEN TO KAINALDIA.
IT'S A PORTAL ONLY DEMONS CAN GO THROUGH.
UGH!
DID THEY SEND YOU TO COME LOOKING FOR US?
SO WHY ARE YOU HERE, ZOMA?


I'M SORRY I DIDN'T TELL YOU ABOUT IT EARLIER.
I JUST DIDN'T THINK THAT IT WOULD BE MUCH HELP. YOU NOT BEING A DEMON AND ALL.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. I'M JUST GLAD YOU FOUND TINTLET.
YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW WORRIED I WAS.

I KNEW YOU WERE GONNA SAY THAT.
IT'S MY MEMORY. I HAVE TO FIND IT!
WELL, I'M COMING WITH YOU.
IF YOU INSIST ON GOING BY YOURSELF, I'LL JUST CONDUCT A SEPARATE SEARCH.
DON'T BE LIKE THAT!
THAT KIND OF THINKING IS HOLDING YOU BACK.
YOU PROMISED ME YOU WOULDN'T GET CAUGHT LAST TIME, BUT LOOK WHAT HAPPENED ONCE YOU WERE ON YOUR OWN.
ONLY MY BODY GOT CAUGHT. MY SPIRIT GOT AWAY!
STOP, YOU GUYS! HANG ON A SEC!
OWW!
ugh!
YOU'RE NOT LEAVING MY SIGHT! YOU HEAR ME?!
IT MIGHT BE FASTER THAT WAY.
YOU'D BE ABLE TO SEARCH ANYWHERE YOU PLEASE.

HE'S EARNEST.
WATER OF CHANGE?
IS THAT A TREASURE?
I CAN'T HELP IT.
I'M CONCERNED ABOUT THE WATER OF CHANGE THAT TINTLET WAS SEARCHING FOR.


CHILL OUT, KITCHEL!
CAN WE FIND IT IN THIS WORLD?
SHE'S EARNEST TOO. JUST NOT ABOUT THE SAME THINGS.
She's worse than that...


ACTUALLY, I DON'T REALLY KNOW. TINTLET WOULD BE THE ONE TO ASK, IF SHE HAD HER MEMORY.
WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO FIND IT.
Hmm...

IF WE GET TO SOME HIGHER GROUND MAYBE WE CAN SEE IT.
MORE EARNESTNESS!
BY "IT" DO YOU MEAN THE CASTLE?
THATZ...
.....

HOW ABOUT YOU LEAVE TINTLET WITH ME? I'LL KEEP AN EYE ON HER.
はい!
WELL, IF YOU GO WITH TINTLET...
RINGLEYS WANTS TO GO, TOO.
BUT WHAT FOR?
Eh, Why?
THAT'S NOT WHAT I SAID!
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF I'M WITH LORD RUNE OR LADY TINTLET. AS LONG AS I'M WITH ONE OF THEM, I'M FINE.
SO WHAT?
.....?
OH.
DO YOU REALLY WANT TWO LITTLE KIDS TAGGING ALONG WHILE YOU'RE TAKING CARE OF OFFICIAL DRAGON KNIGHT DUTIES?
LOOK, YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO REJOIN THATZ AND RATH EVENTUALLY. I MEAN, THAT IS YOUR MISSION, RIGHT?

WHAT SORT OF FREAK GETS HIS KICKS FROM KILLING DEMONS?
A DRAGON KNIGHT.
SOMETHING WRONG WITH THAT?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, YOU MORON!
!
THATZ!
I Want lunch.
FORGET IT. LET'S KEEP CLIMBING.

ALL THIS JUST TO DO WHAT? SAVE SOME FORTUNETELLER?
I Wouldn't've packed a lunch if I knew we'd be hiking.
Phew!
BE DIFFERENT IF WE WERE SEARCHING FOR TREASURE...
NO, I'M JUST HUNGRY.
...IT WAS YOUR IDEA TO COME UP HERE. ARE YOU TIRED ALREADY?
HEY, YOU'RE RIGHT!
PON
THERE SHOULD BE SOME IN NADIL'S CASTLE.
Treasure, that is.
That's right! You calling ME weird!
Really?
I DON'T KNOW. YOU CAN GET WEIRD ABOUT YOUR TREASURE.
Remember when you stole those gold-plated golf shoes?
HE PROBABLY HAS TONS OF STUFF I LIKE!

SAABEL!!
I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU.
THERE YOU ARE!
YOU TOOK HIM HOSTAGE, REMEMBER?!
TELL ME
...WHERE IS METEAURA?
OH!
YOU MEAN THE LITTLE BUTTERFLY GUY!
UH, HE'S GONE.
MUCH AS I HATE SAYING IT, I MISS THE LITTLE GUY.

WHAT?!

GONE?

.....

YOU DON'T FEEL YOUR POWER, RIGHT?

IT'S 'CUZ HE'S NOT HERE.

MY POWER...

I HAVEN'T FELT IT FOR AWHILE.

YOU DIDN'T KILL HIM, DID YOU?

I DON'T KNOW.

HMPH!

HEY!
YOU COULD'VE GIVEN ME A WARNING!
COUGH COUGH
you got dust in my eyes!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU DON'T KNOW?!
WAS I BEING EVASIVE?
I JUST TOLD THE TRUTH.
I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FRIEND.
STOP BEING EVASIVE AND ANSWER MY GODDAMN QUESTION!
LIAR! HOW COULD YOU NOT KNOW?!
FLICK

WELL, I'M NOT ONE FOR CHITCHAT, ANYWAY. YOU WANT ME, SAABEL?! COME AND GET ME!
SHIT.
I THINK I PISSED HIM OFF.
OF COURSE YOU DID!

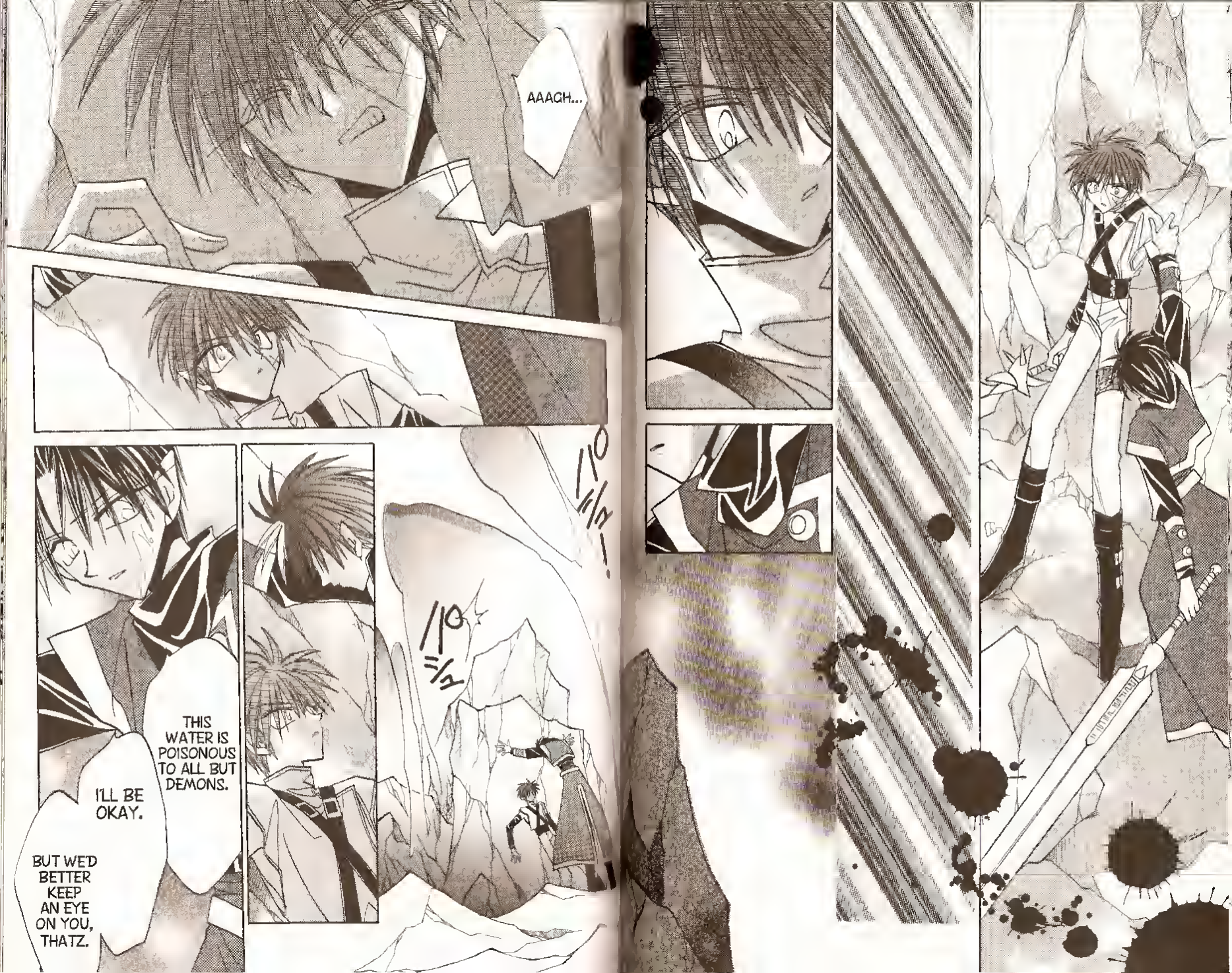
HE'S VERY IMPORTANT TO ME! AND YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW IF YOU'VE KILLED HIM?
HE'S ONLY GIVEN ME THREE THINGS: MY DEMON POWER, GARABA...
...AND METEAURA.
ぷっ ぷっ
METEAURA WAS A GIFT FROM THE DEMON LORD! NADIL DOESN'T GO AROUND PASSING OUT PRESENTS EVERY DAY, YOU KNOW!
THAT FISH LOOK STRANGE TO YOU?
?

AAAGH!
I WAS MERELY TOYING WITH YOU EARLIER. BUT NOW...
NOW YOU'VE PISSED ME OFF!

IT'S...

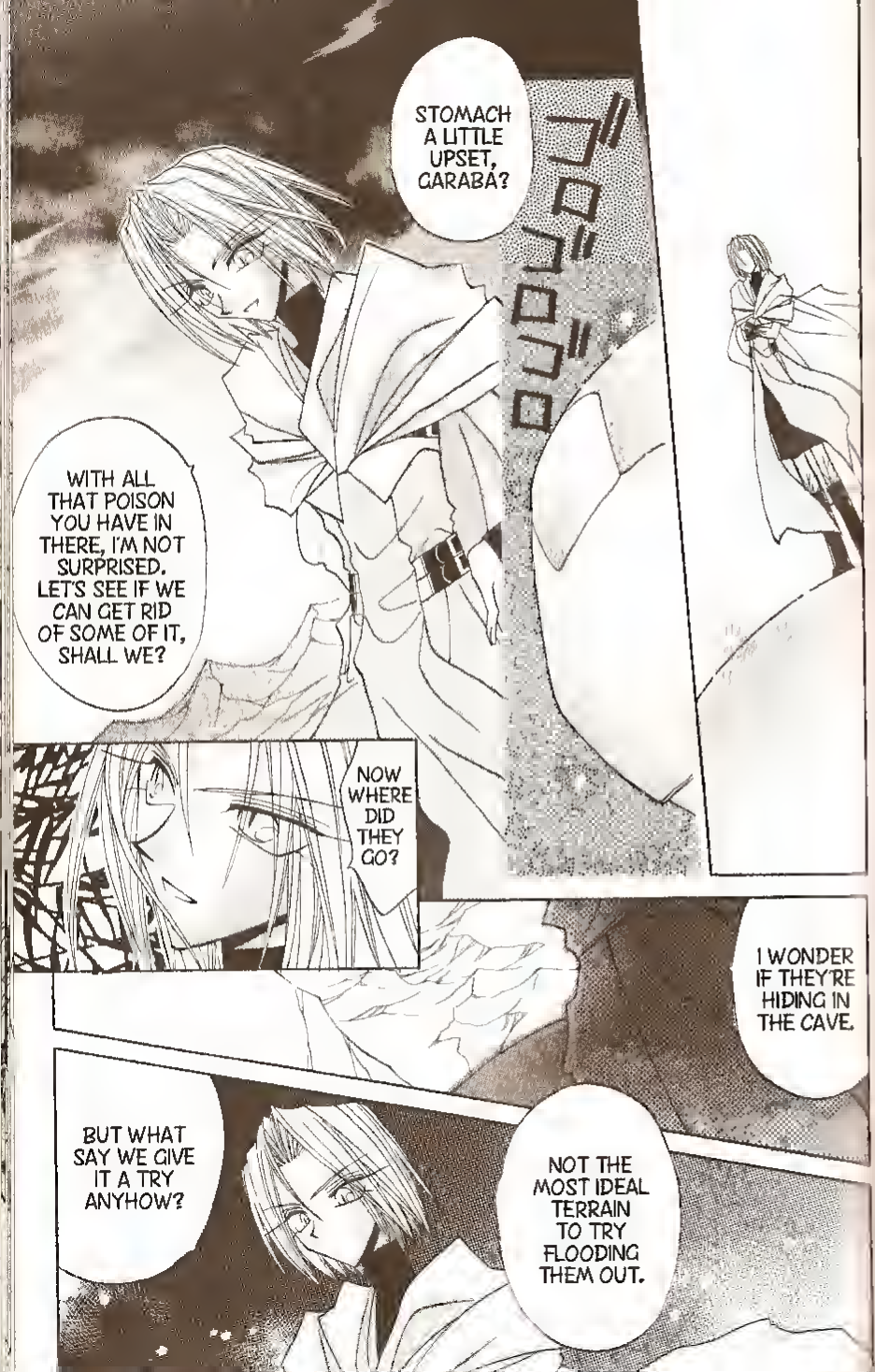
GARABA...
...USE YOUR POISON ATTACK.

WHAT?!


AAAGH...
THIS WATER IS POISONOUS TO ALL BUT DEMONS.
I'LL BE OKAY.
BUT WE'D BETTER KEEP AN EYE ON YOU, THATZ.

REASONS?! WELL, WHAT'S YOUR REASONING BEHIND YOUR DEMON-HUNTING OBSESSION? HUH?! YOU ARE A DEMON!
!
I HAVE MY REA-SONS.
!
THIS IS JUST ANOTHER BRICK YOU'RE ADDING TO THE WALL YOU'VE BUILT BETWEEN YOU AND THE REST OF THE WORLD.
YOU'RE STUCK IN THAT MINDSET, AND YOU USE IT TO KEEP PEOPLE FROM GETTING TOO CLOSE!
YOU'RE ALWAYS USING YOUR DEMON SIDE AS A CRUTCH! AS A WAY OF OSTRACIZING YOURSELF!

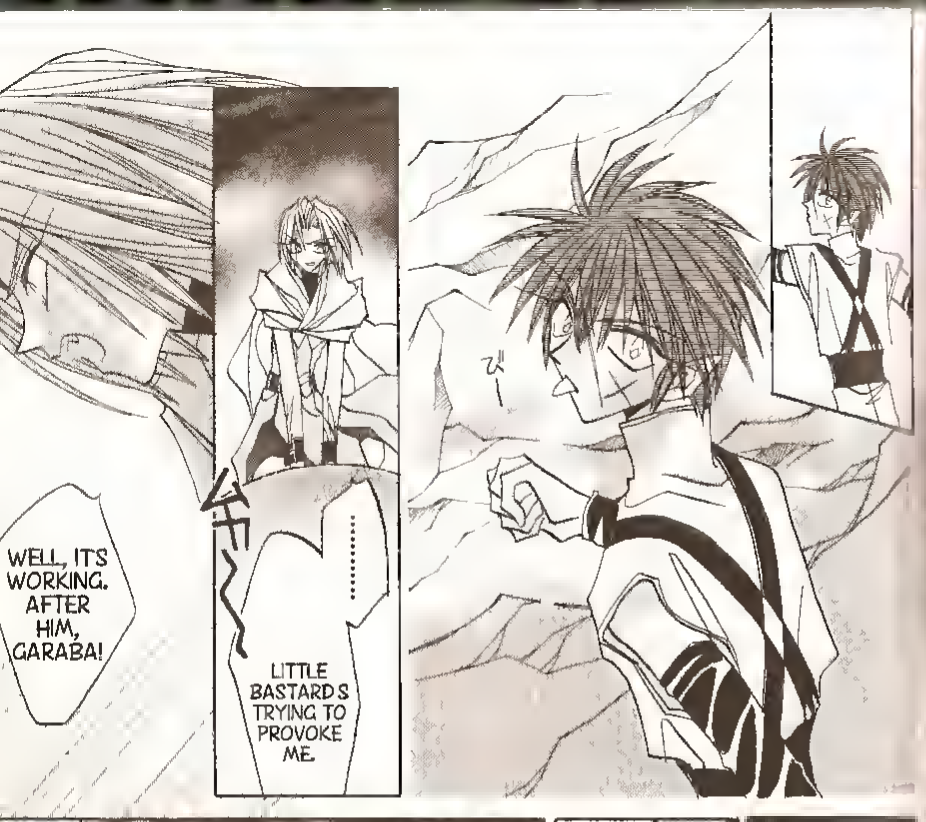
BAM
OOF!
IDIOT!
!
YOU JUST ARE!!
WHY THE HELL AM I AN IDIOT?!
GARABA!!
SHIT!
WHERE ARE THEY HIDING?

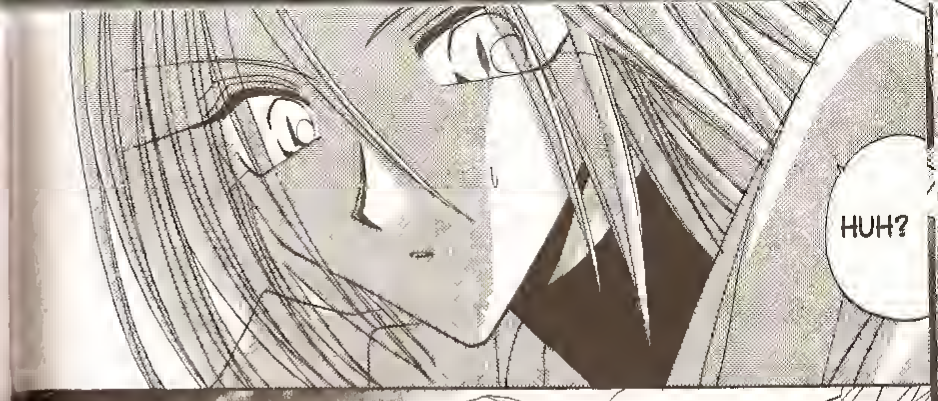

STOMACH A LITTLE UPSET, GARABA?
WITH ALL THAT POISON YOU HAVE IN THERE, I'M NOT SURPRISED. LET'S SEE IF WE CAN GET RID OF SOME OF IT, SHALL WE?
NOW WHERE DID THEY GO?
I WONDER IF THEY'RE HIDING IN THE CAVE.
BUT WHAT SAY WE GIVE IT A TRY ANYHOW?
NOT THE MOST IDEAL TERRAIN TO TRY FLOODING THEM OUT.

WELL, I'M NOT KAI-STERN.
I SEE RIGHT THROUGH YOUR ACT.
IT'S ALL AN ACT.
YOU DO IT TO IMPRESS LORD LYKOULEON, KAI-STERN AND THE OTHERS, RIGHT?!
KAI-STERN GAVE UP HIS LIFE FOR YOU BECAUSE HE WAS YOUR FRIEND. BUT THAT FRIENDSHIP WAS BASED ON LIES!

YES.
DO YOU REMEMBER?
ポ~!
WE MUST DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT FISH, OR WE'RE GONNA BE BAPTIZED IN THAT CRAP HE'S SPITTING OUT.
GOOD! NOW THAT WE'VE CLEARED THAT UP, LET'S FIGURE OUT WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO NEXT.
TOO BAD IT DOESN'T POISON HIM!
WELL...
...IT MAY NOT KILL HIM, BUT IT CAN'T BE GOOD ON HIS STOMACH...
WHY DOES IT NEED A NAME?
HEY, WHADDYA SAY WE COME UP WITH A NAME FOR THIS OPERATION?
JUST FOR KICKS.
WE CAN CALL IT "OPERATION: FISH FRY"! AND WE'LL CALL OURSELVES "THE FISHNETS"!
I AM NOT CALLING MYSELF A "FISHNET."

WELL, AM I RIGHT?
YOU CAN HATE US IF YOU WANT TO, RATH...
...BUT YOUR LITTLE TACTICS WILL NO LONGER WORK ON RUNE OR ME.
BESIDES, WE'VE ALREADY MADE IT ABUNDANTLY CLEAR...
...THAT WE ACCEPT YOU AS ONE OF US.
EVERYTHING'S CLEAR NOW, RIGHT?
YES.
I THINK YOU ARE.


WELL, IT'S WORKING. AFTER HIM, GARABA!
LITTLE BASTARD'S TRYING TO PROVOKE ME.


HUH?

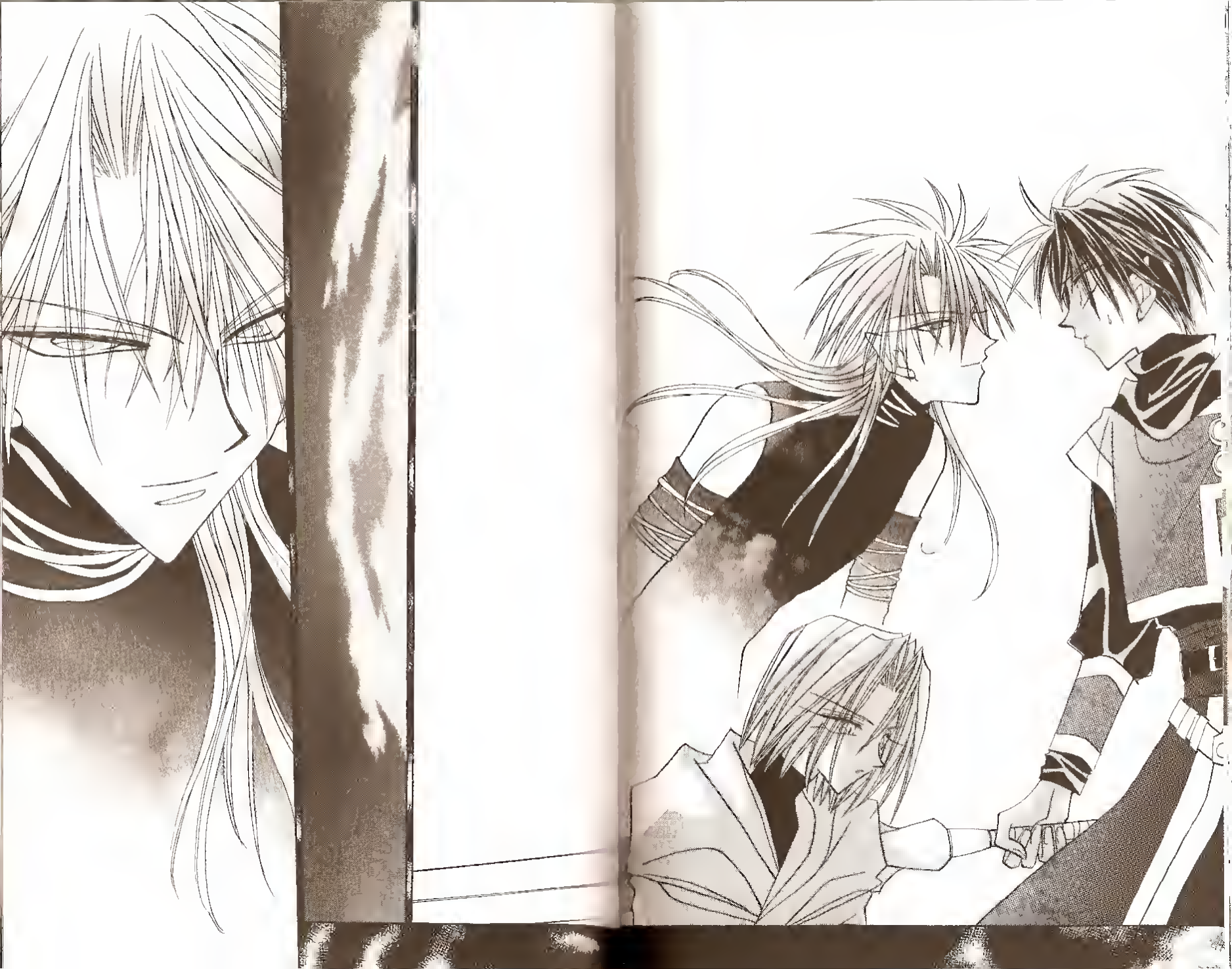
NO WONDER THIS FIGHT HAS BEEN SO EASY.
NO WAY I'D BE ABLE TO GET THIS CLOSE IF THAT GUY WERE HERE.

I JUST NOW REALIZED THAT WE'RE SHORT A PLAYER.
WHERE'S THE FAERIE?
I don't remember his face.

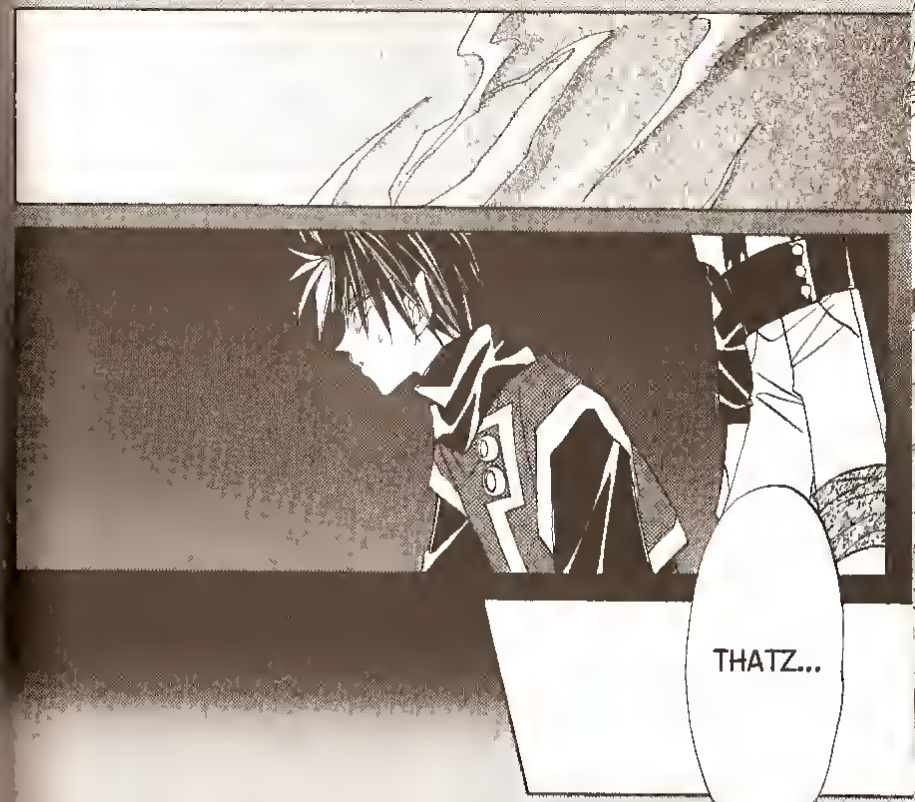
I WONDER HOW MUCH REVIVAL WATER A DUEL DRAGON CAN HANDLE?
SWISH
I'D IMAGINE IT'LL DO SOME DAMAGE. AFTER ALL, IT WORKS JUST FINE ON THE DRAGON CLAN.
HELLO, FIRE.
IT'S A BATTLE OF ELEMENTS, THEN.
SO THE FIRE DRAGON'S HERE TO COMBAT MY REVIVAL WATER, EH?

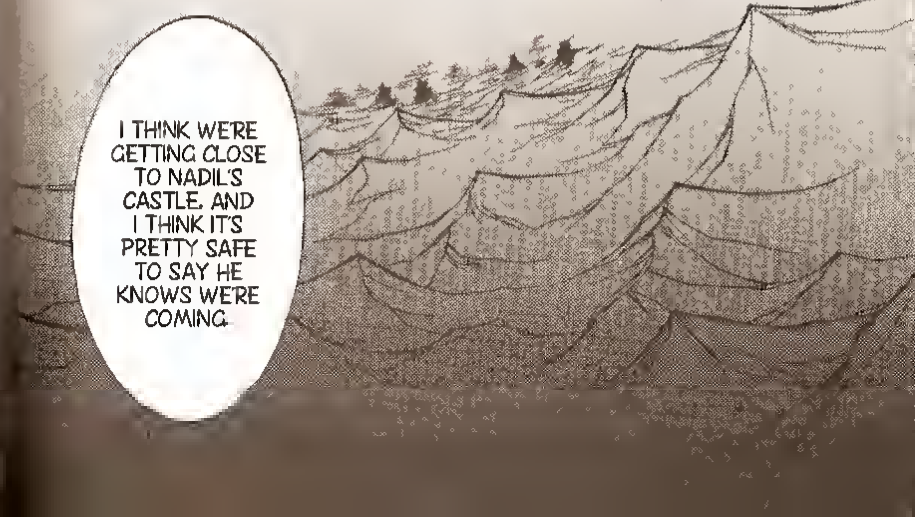
I SEE.
DAMN!
IT HAS NO EFFECT ON YOU. YOU'RE A DEMON?!
I'M A DEMON THAT KILLS DEMON!!
DO YOU REALIZE HOW STUPID THAT SOUNDS?

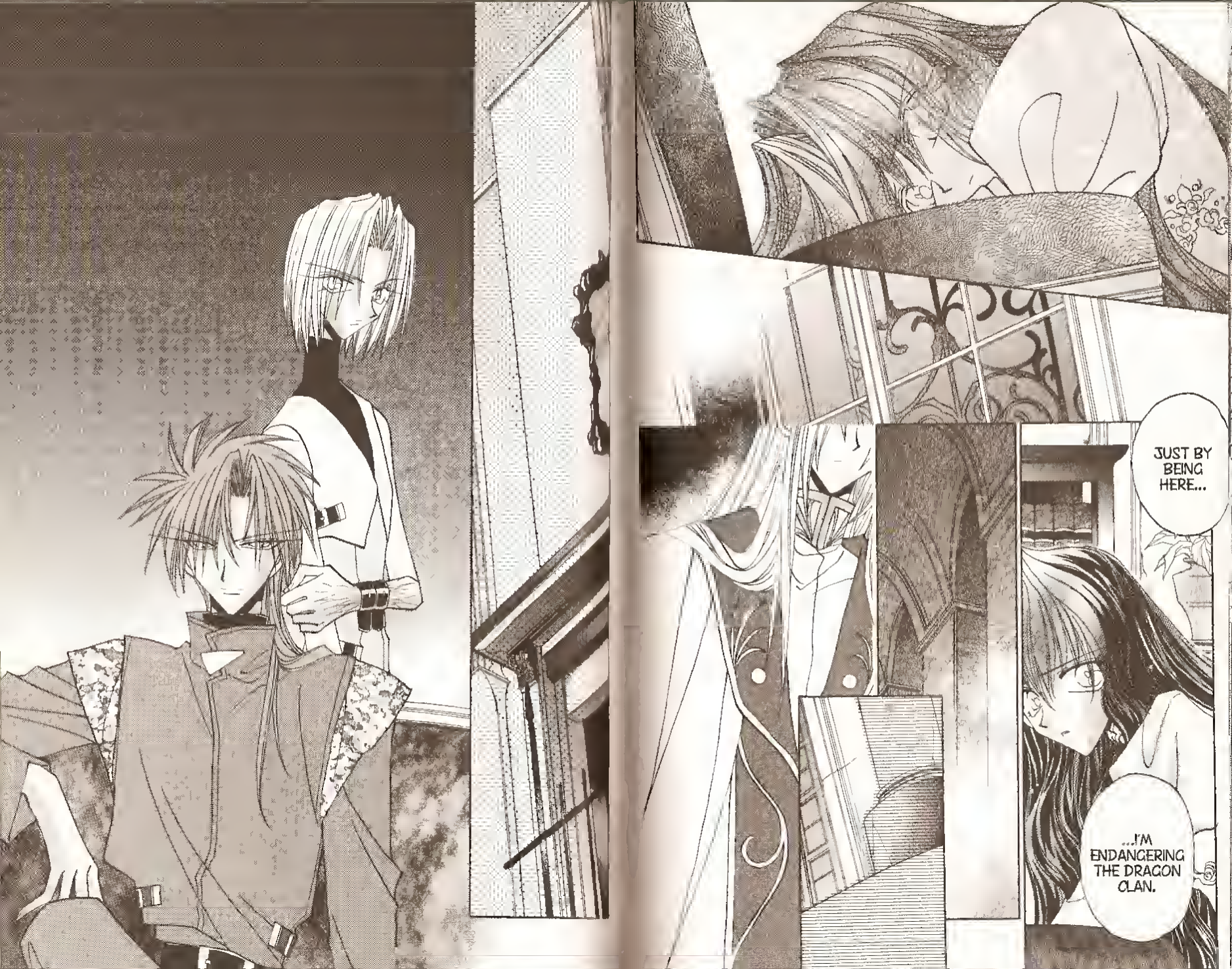
TOO BAD YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO FIND OUT.

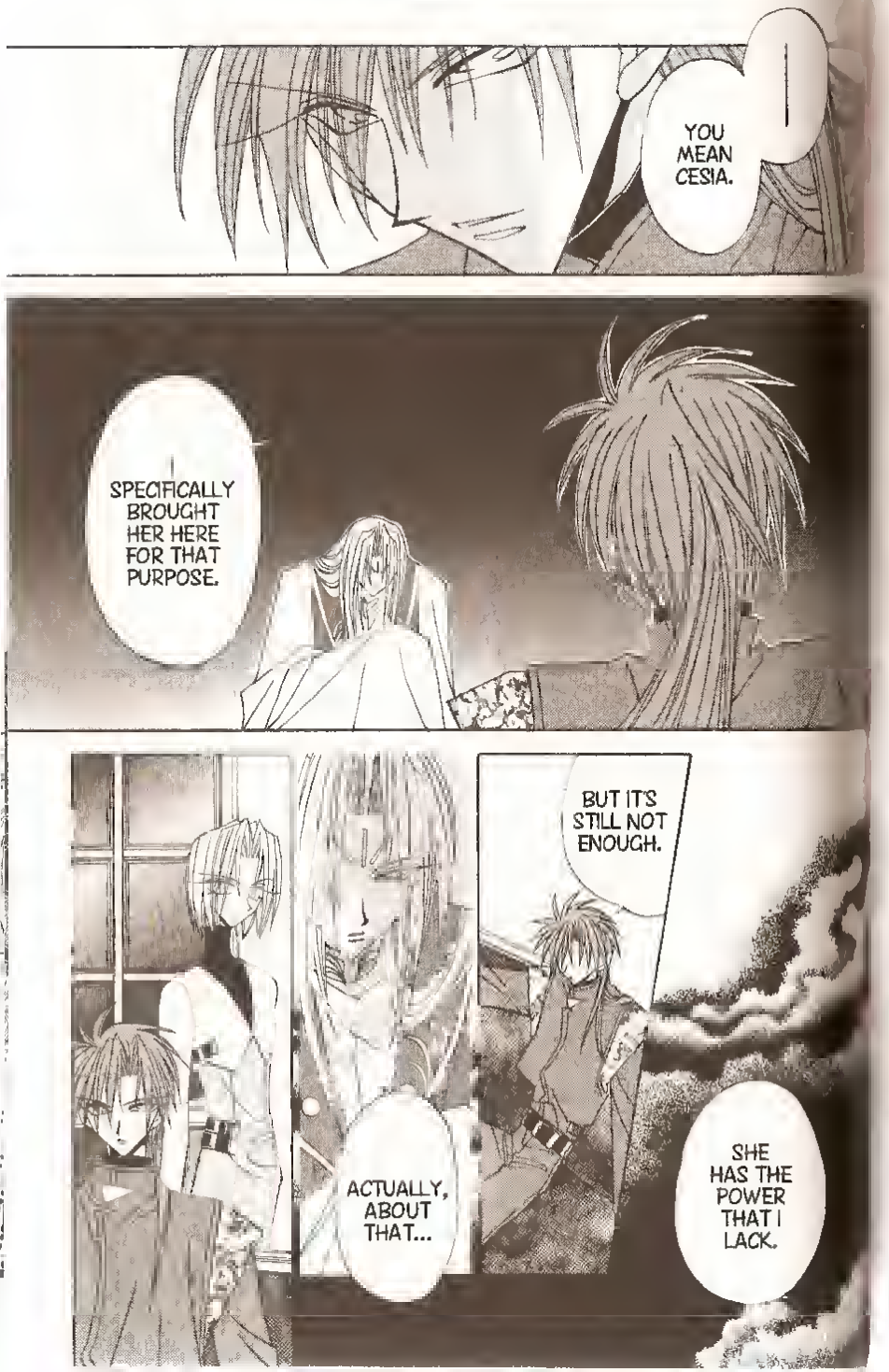


WHAT?
WHO'S THAT?

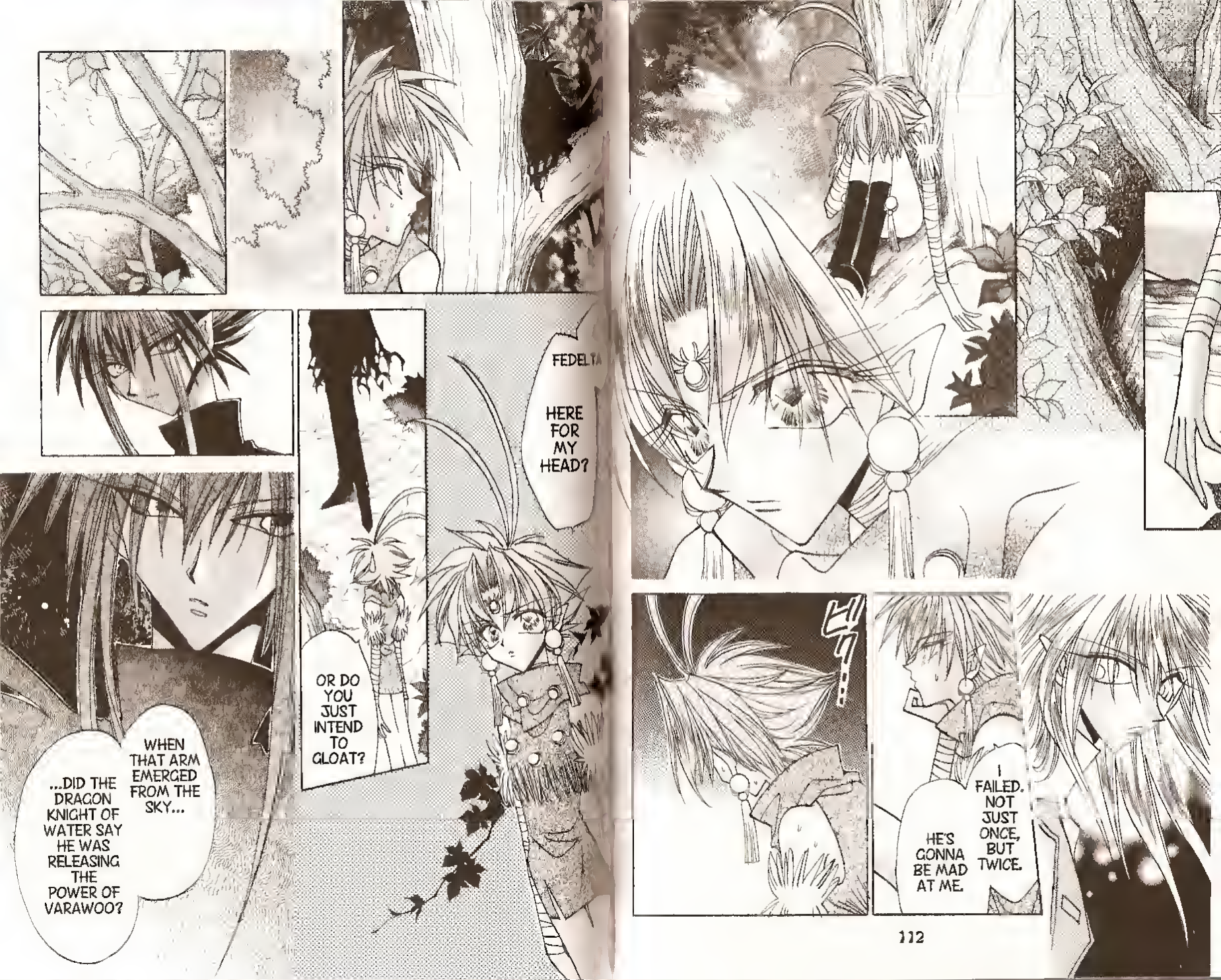

THATZ...


I THINK WE'RE GETTING CLOSE TO NADIL'S CASTLE. AND I THINK IT'S PRETTY SAFE TO SAY HE KNOWS WE'RE COMING.


JUST BY BEING HERE...
...I'M ENDANGERING THE DRAGON CLAN.


YOU MEAN CESIA.
SPECIFICALLY BROUGHT HER HERE FOR THAT PURPOSE.
BUT IT'S STILL NOT ENOUGH.
ACTUALLY, ABOUT THAT...
SHE HAS THE POWER THAT I LACK.

THE TIME IS NEAR.
YES, MY LORD. YOUR REVIVAL AND THIS GIRL'S POWER HAVE HELPED MOVE THINGS ALONG.


FEDEL
HERE FOR MY HEAD?
OR DO YOU JUST INTEND TO GLOAT?
WHEN THAT ARM EMERGED FROM THE SKY...
...DID THE DRAGON KNIGHT OF WATER SAY HE WAS RELEASING THE POWER OF VARAWOO?
I FAILED. NOT JUST ONCE, BUT TWICE.
HE'S GONNA BE MAD AT ME.

I DON'T CARE EITHER WAY.
WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO TELL YOU?
TRUST ME...
...FAILURE IS NOT MY INTENT.
I'M LOSING MY PATIENCE WITH YOU. FAIL ME AGAIN...
...AND KISS YOUR LIFE GOODBYE.

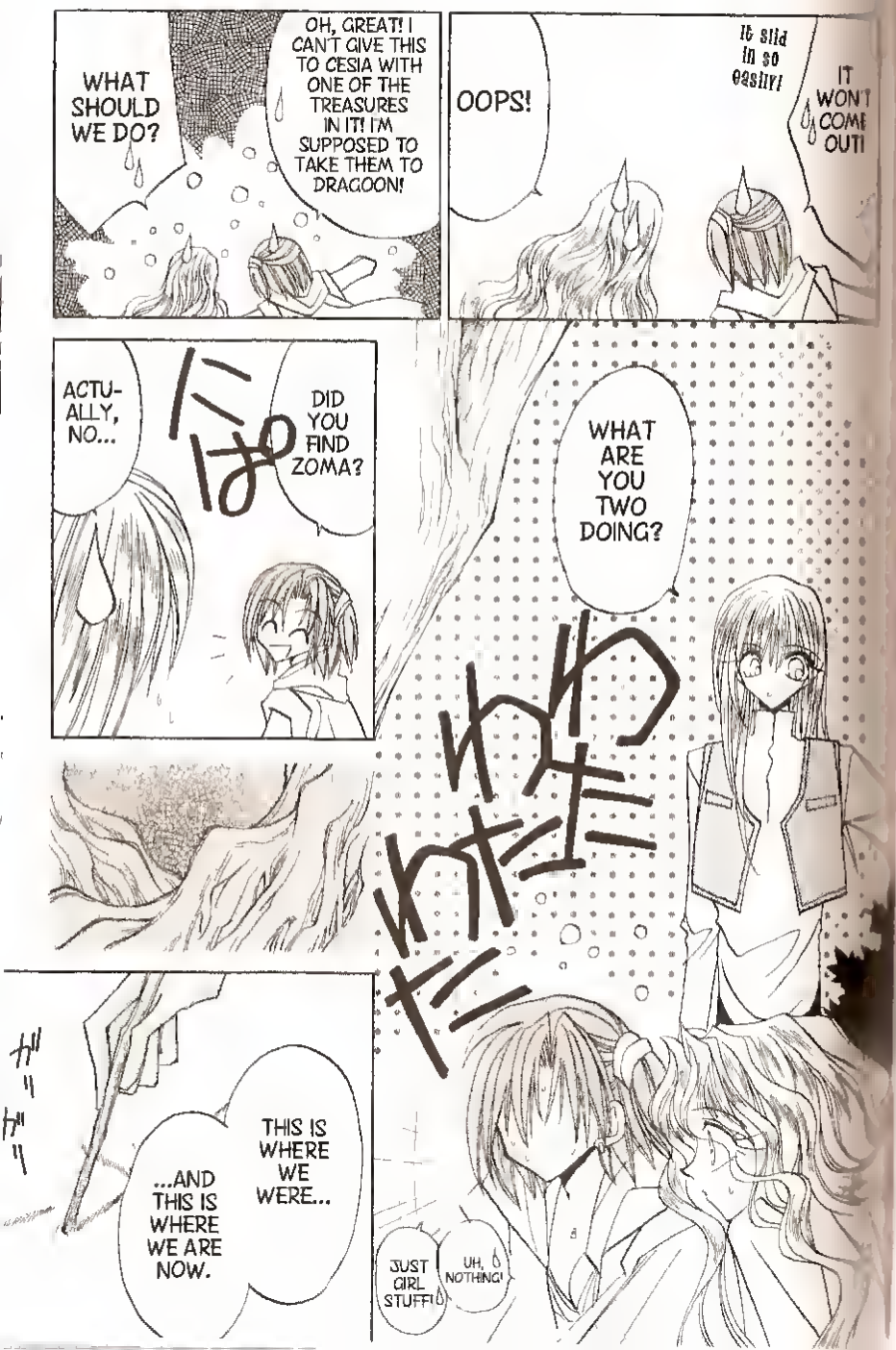
VARAWOO?
YOU MEAN...
...THAT HUGE ARM COMING OUT OF THE SKY WAS... VARAWOO?
Y'KNOW...
...I REALLY DON'T REMEMBER.
I DON'T SEE THE CONNECTION.
GIANT ARM COMING FROM THE SKY AND RUNE...

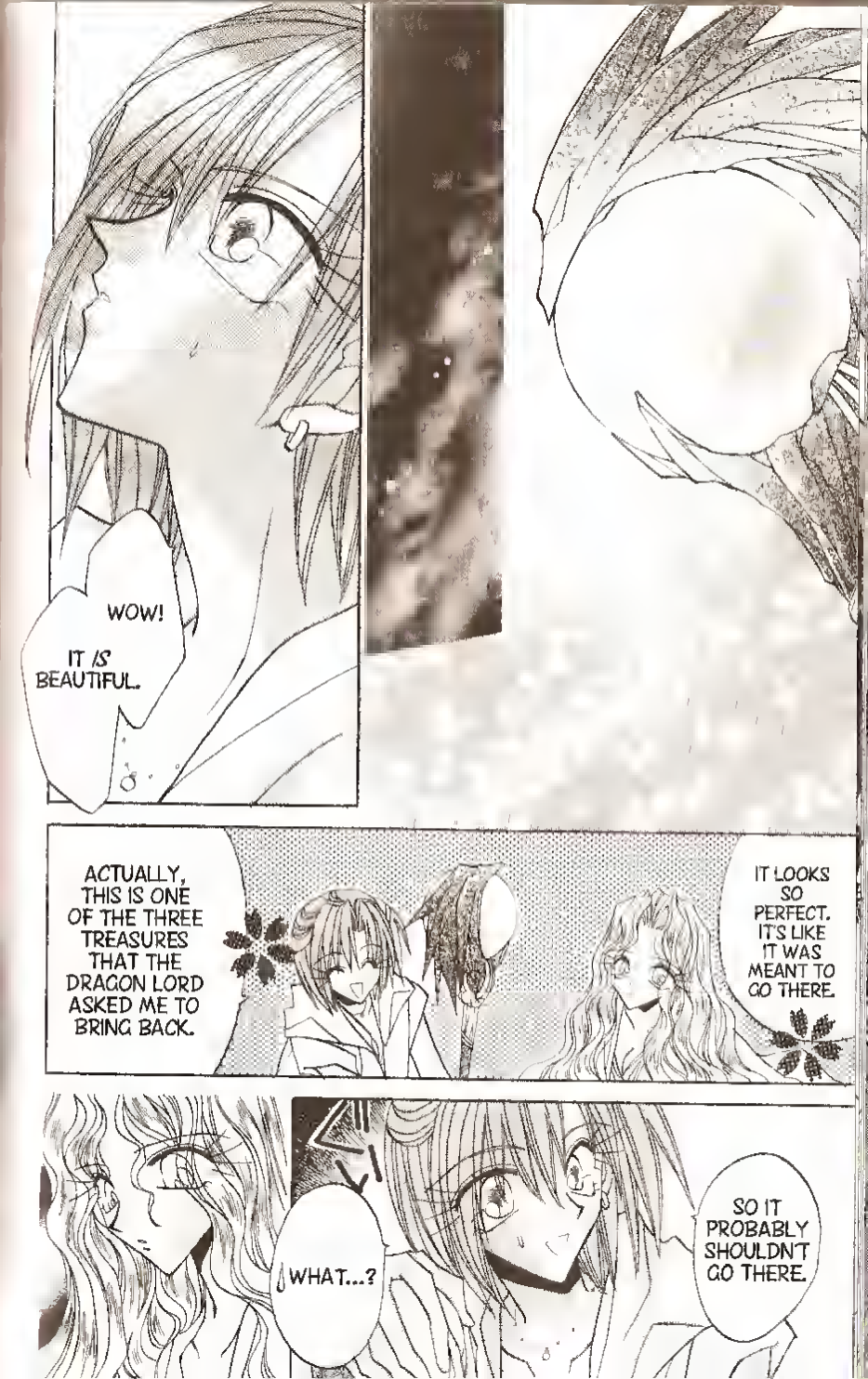
ZOMA AND RINGLEYS ARE LATE.
IT'S BEEN AWHILE.
MAYBE THEY GOT LOST.
HEY,
WHAT?
HMM... YOU'RE RIGHT.
THEY ARE LOST.
UH, RINGLEYS...
LET'S SEE...
WHERE ARE WE?

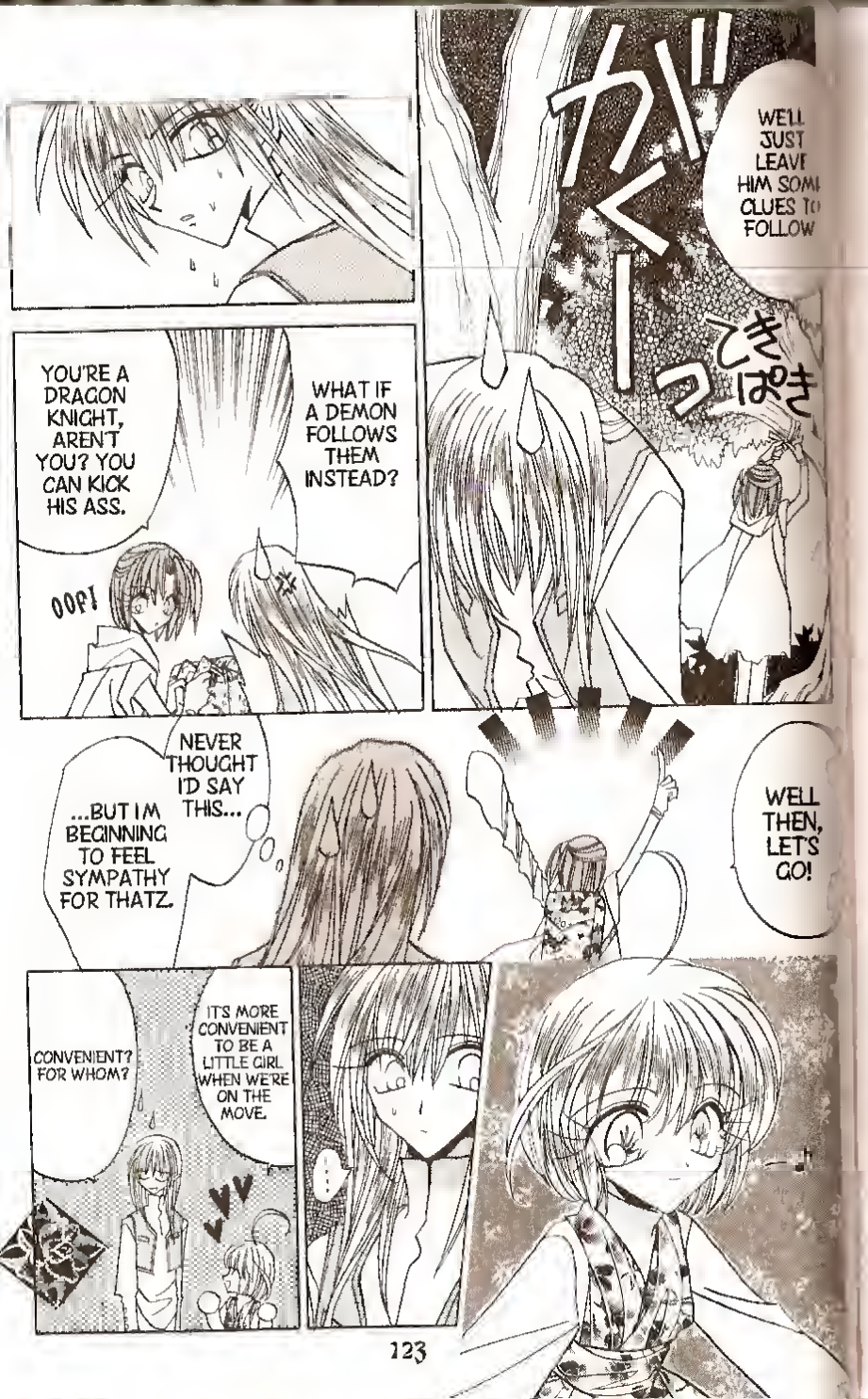
...
THIS STAFF...
I SEE.
ZOMA IS GOING TO TAKE THIS TO THE DRAGON CLAN'S FORTUNE-TELLER, CESIA.
THEY ENDED UP STAYING TOGETHER...
HAVE YOU SEEN IT BE-FORE?
DON'T KNOW!
OF COURSE YOU DON'T! HEE HEE!
...'CUZ KITCHEL'S THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS HOW TO GET TO THE CASTLE.

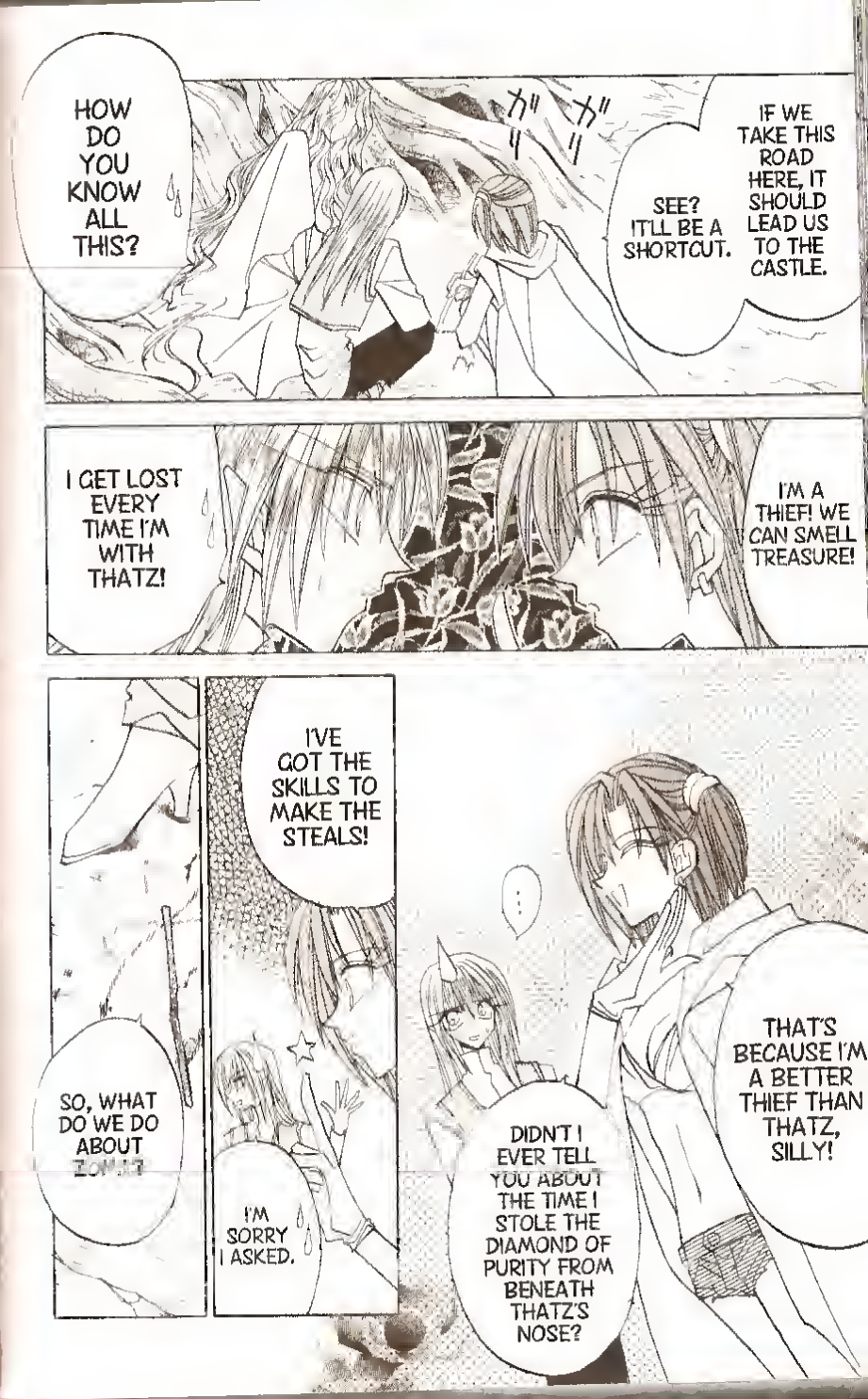
I WOULDN'T KNOW.
NO WAY!
MAYBE WE DROPPED IT SOMEWHERE!
JEWELRY?!
MAYBE IT WAS A PIECE OF JEWELRY OR A PRECIOUS STONE.
D YOU think?!
?
WE CAN REPLACE IT WITH THIS. IT SHOULD BE THE RIGHT SIZE.
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL STONE.
TA DAH!

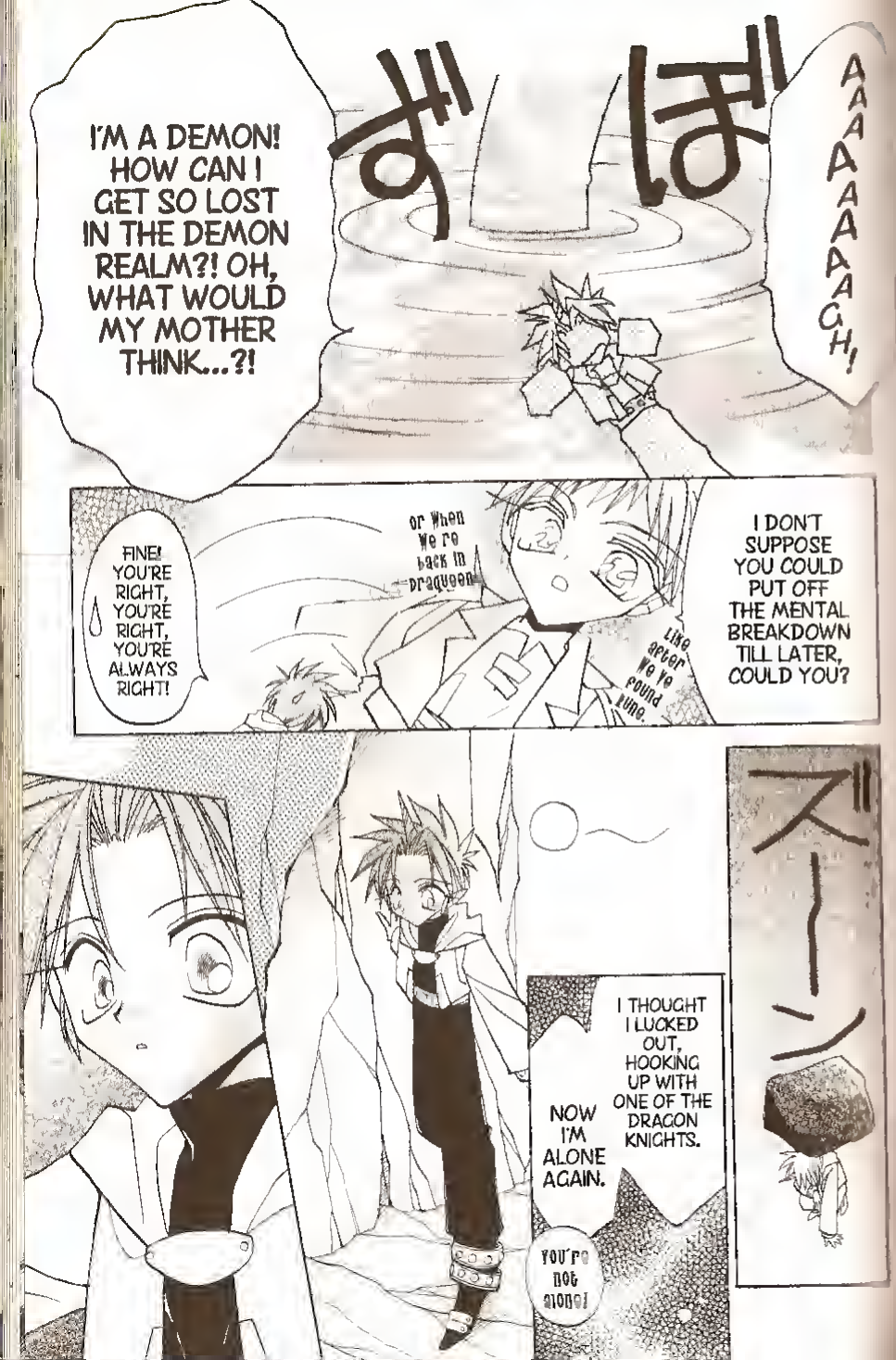
ZOMA!
THEY AREN'T HERE.
As if you couldn't tell.
LOOK! THIS PART OF THE STAFF...
ZOMA?
RINGLEYS!
YEAH.
IT LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING'S MISSING.
DOESN'T IT LOOK LIKE SOMETHING USED TO GO THERE?


WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
OH, GREAT! I CAN'T GIVE THIS TO CESIA WITH ONE OF THE TREASURES IN IT! I'M SUPPOSED TO TAKE THEM TO DRAGOON!
OOPS!
It slid in so easily!
IT WON'T COME OUT!
ACTU-ALLY, NO...
DID YOU FIND ZOMA?
WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING?
...AND THIS IS WHERE WE ARE NOW.
THIS IS WHERE WE WERE...
JUST GIRL STUFF!
UH, NOTHING!

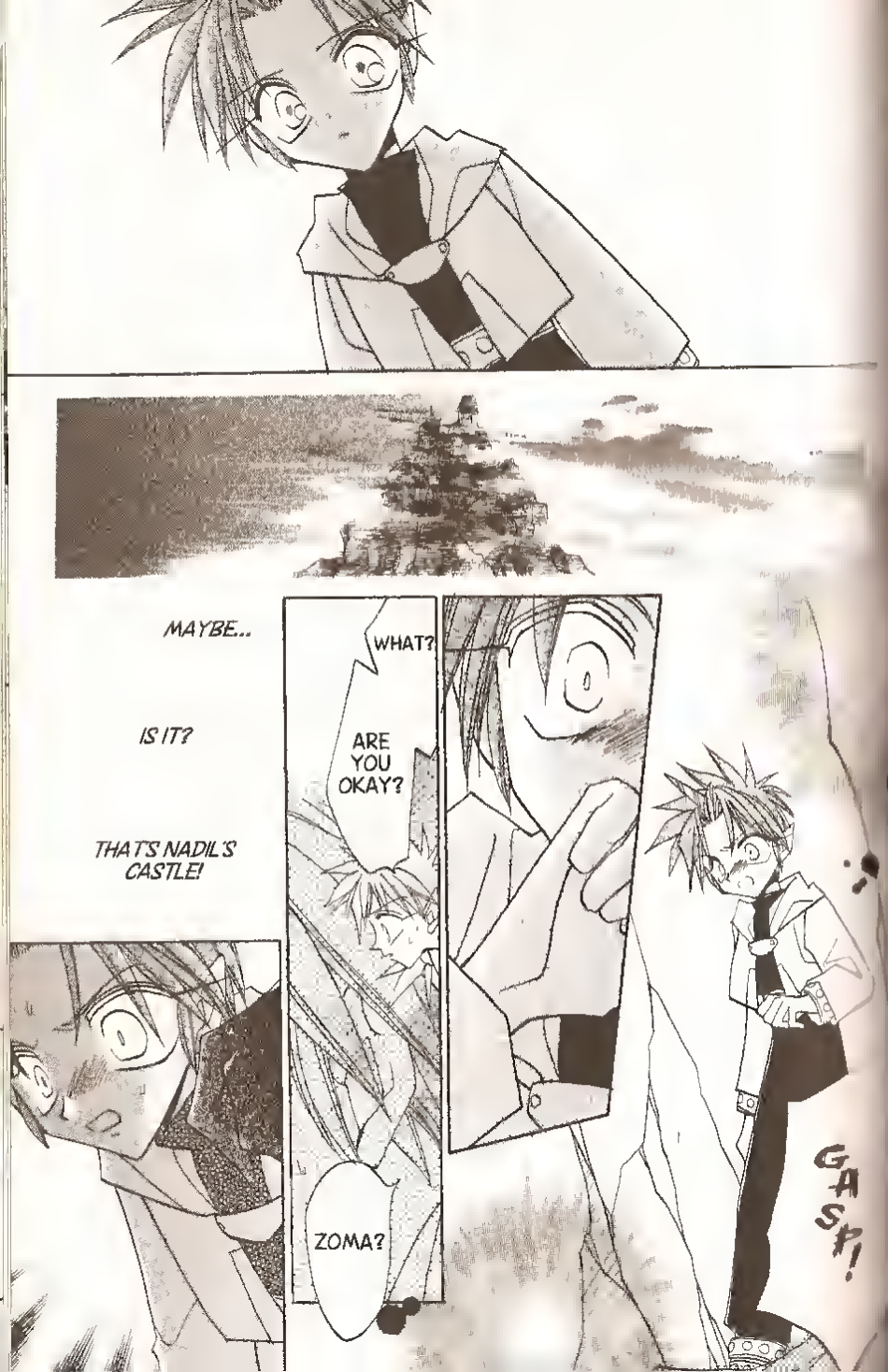

WOW!
IT IS BEAUTIFUL.
ACTUALLY, THIS IS ONE OF THE THREE TREASURES THAT THE DRAGON LORD ASKED ME TO BRING BACK.
IT LOOKS SO PERFECT. IT'S LIKE IT WAS MEANT TO GO THERE.
WHAT...?
SO IT PROBABLY SHOULDN'T GO THERE.


WE'LL JUST LEAVE HIM SOME CLUES TO FOLLOW
YOU'RE A DRAGON KNIGHT, AREN'T YOU? YOU CAN KICK HIS ASS.
WHAT IF A DEMON FOLLOWS THEM INSTEAD?
OOPS!
NEVER THOUGHT I'D SAY THIS...
...BUT I'M BEGINNING TO FEEL SYMPATHY FOR THATZ.
WELL THEN, LET'S GO!
CONVENIENT? FOR WHOM?
IT'S MORE CONVENIENT TO BE A LITTLE GIRL WHEN WE'RE ON THE MOVE.

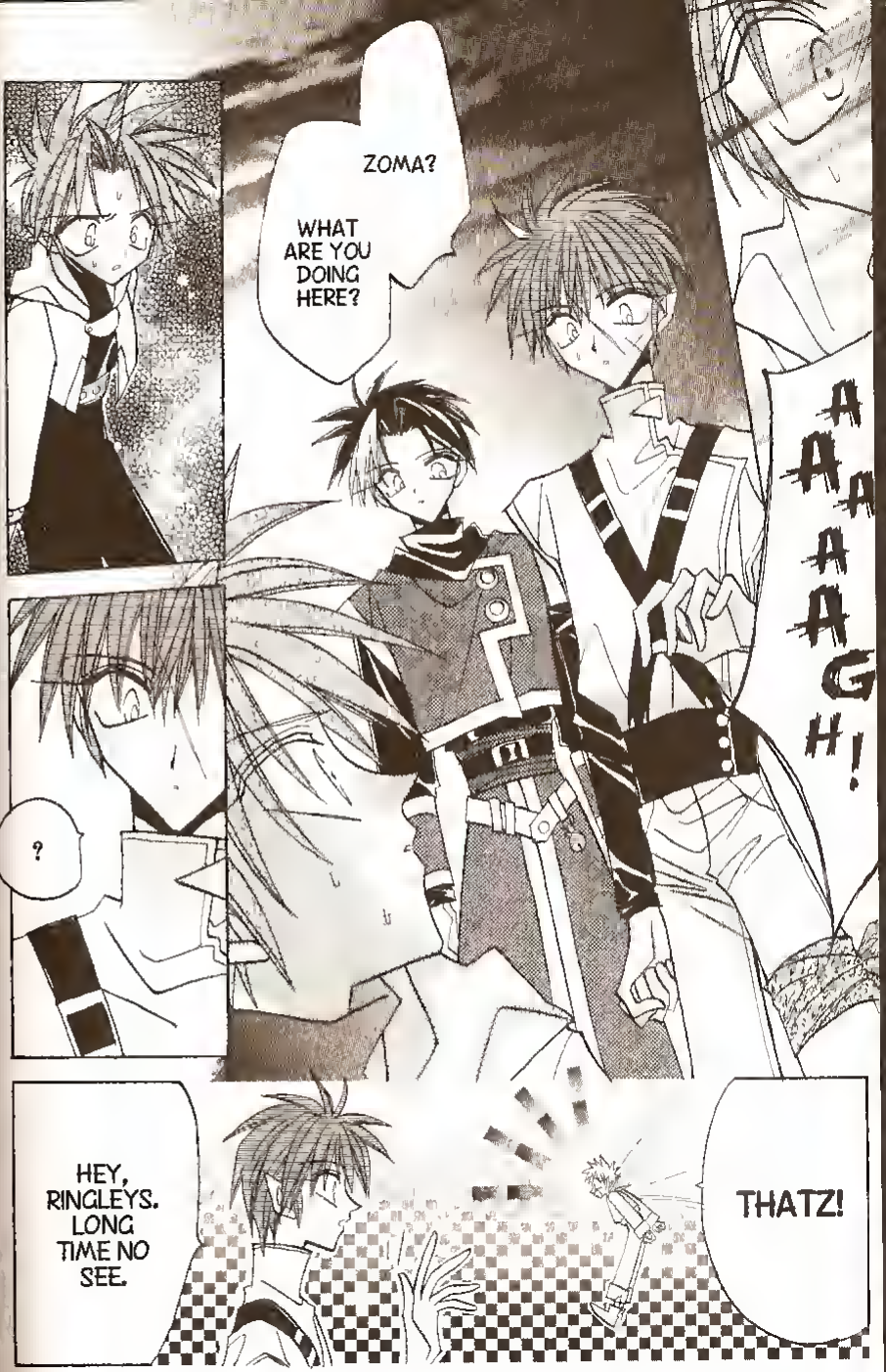

HOW DO YOU KNOW ALL THIS?
SEE? IT'LL BE A SHORTCUT.
IF WE TAKE THIS ROAD HERE, IT SHOULD LEAD US TO THE CASTLE.
I GET LOST EVERY TIME I'M WITH THATZ!
I'M A THIEF! WE CAN SMELL TREASURE!
I'VE GOT THE SKILLS TO MAKE THE STEALS!
SO, WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT ZOMBIE?
I'M SORRY I ASKED.
DIDN'T I EVER TELL YOU ABOUT THE TIME I STOLE THE DIAMOND OF PURITY FROM BENEATH THATZ'S NOSE?
THAT'S BECAUSE I'M A BETTER THIEF THAN THATZ, SILLY!


AAAAAAAGH!
I'M A DEMON! HOW CAN I GET SO LOST IN THE DEMON REALM?! OH, WHAT WOULD MY MOTHER THINK...?!
I DON'T SUPPOSE YOU COULD PUT OFF THE MENTAL BREAKDOWN TILL LATER, COULD YOU?
Like after we've found Yuno.
Or when we're back in Dragueen
FINE! YOU'RE RIGHT, YOU'RE RIGHT, YOU'RE ALWAYS RIGHT!
I THOUGHT I LUCKED OUT, HOOKING UP WITH ONE OF THE DRAGON KNIGHTS.
NOW I'M ALONE AGAIN.
You're not alone!

PHEW!
THIS DOESN'T LOOK FAMILIAR AT ALL.
UH-OH...
ACTUALLY, IT LOOKS VERY FAMILIAR. I THINK WE WERE HERE ALREADY.


MAYBE...
IS IT?
THAT'S NADIL'S CASTLE!
WHAT?
ARE YOU OKAY?
ZOMA?
GASP!

ガシ
Hey! Easy!
YOU GUYS SHOULD HIDE.
WE DIDN'T COME ALL THIS WAY JUST TO GET DISCOVERED.
AH!
ARE YOU REAL?
OKAY, WE SHOULD BE SAFE HERE.
ZOMA, WHY ARE YOU HERE? AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE AT THE DRAGON CASTLE?
I ALREADY EXPLAINED ALL THIS TO RUNE.
YOU SAW RUNE?


AAAAAGH!
ZOMA?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
?
THATZ!
HEY, RINGLEYS. LONG TIME NO SEE.

I DON'T KNOW.
HOW DO DEMONS ENTER AND LEAVE A CASTLE IN THE CENTER OF THE OCEAN?
HMM...
UNLESS YOU THINK WE SHOULD TRY THE LAKE PORTAL.
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I WAS HERE. I'M AFRAID I WON'T BE OF MUCH HELP.
I WISH WE HAD MORE CLUES. I MEAN, IT'S RIGHT IN FRONT OF US.
I'M ABOUT READY TO START SWIMMING.
AFTER ALL...
...CESIA'S IN THERE.

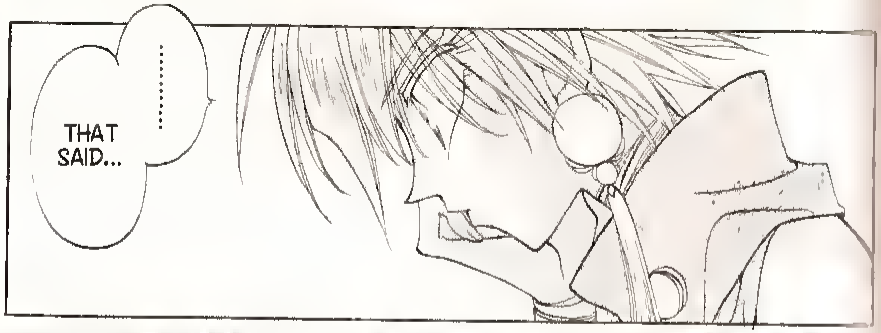
POOR GUY.
SO RUNE IS WITH KITCHEL?
AND THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED.
I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE THEY ARE NOW.
THANKS TO THE FOG, THEY HAVEN'T SPOTTED US.
WE'VE BEEN WANDERING AROUND NADIL'S CASTLE TRYING TO FIND A WAY IN.

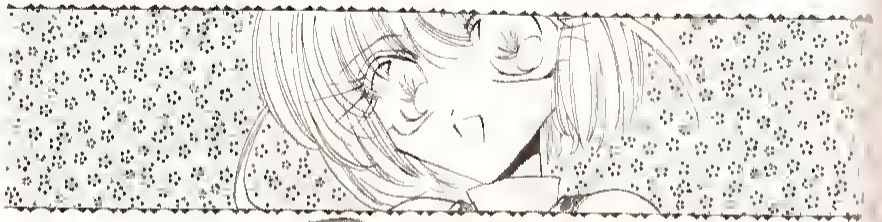
DAMN! I JUST REMEMBERED THAT I LEFT THE WIND STAFF WITH KITCHEL! WHAT SHOULD I DO?!
I WAS SUPPOSED TO BRING IT TO CESIA!
THE WIND STAFF?
YOU MEAN THE STAFF...
...THAT CAN RESURRECT THE DEAD?
A DUPLICATE?!
A COPY OF THE ORIGINAL?
RATH!
WAIT A SECOND!
KITCHEL HAS THE STAFF OF THE WIND DRAGON?
IT'S NOT WHAT YOU'RE THINKING, RATH.
KITCHEL DOESN'T HAVE THE ORIGINAL STAFF. SHE HAS A DUPLICATE.
UH... YEAH.
AND CESIA WAS GONNA USE IT...
...TO REVIVE YOU, RATH.
IT'LL BE SAFE WITH KITCHEL.
IF IT'S VALUABLE, SHE WON'T LET IT OUT OF HER SIGHT.
.....
YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?

NOT LETTING IT OUT OF HER SIGHT.
ONCE WE'RE THROUGH HERE, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO SEE THE CASTLE.
GOOD.
SO WE'RE GETTING CLOSE, THEN?
I can't believe it.

FOLLOW ME. IT'S THIS WAY.
YOU'LL SEE.
WE JUST GOTTA GET THROUGH HERE.

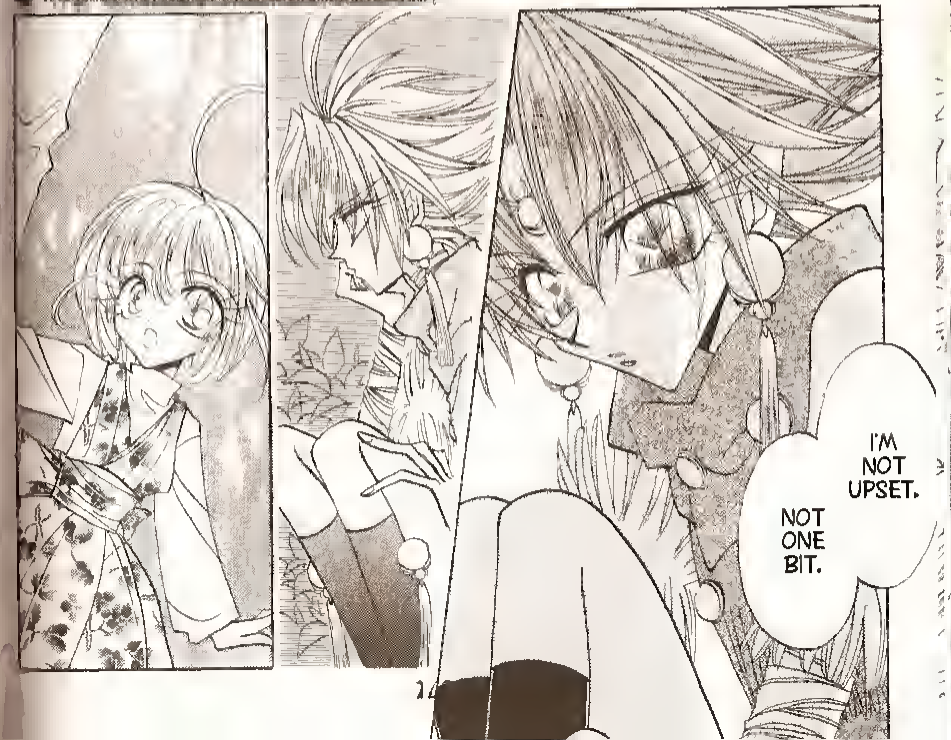
ジロ
OF COURSE NOT. BUT WE NEED TO USE THE RESOURCES THAT ARE AT OUR DISPOSAL.
THE WATER DRAGON IS NOT A CARRIAGE!
IF YOU WANNA TAKE A DETOUR, MAY I SUGGEST GOING IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION? 'CUZ IT'S KINDA STEEP OVER THERE.
WE'LL TAKE A DETOUR THROUGH THERE!
DON'T WORRY. I KNOW WHERE I'M GOING.
SEE? OVER THERE! YOU CAN SEE THE CASTLE IN BETWEEN THOSE TREES AND THAT CLIFF!
WHAAAT?!
EASY! WE HITCH A RIDE ON THAT SCALY, NOT-SO-LITTLE FRIEND OF YOURS.
HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO GET OVER THERE?!
WHAT?


.....
THAT SAID...



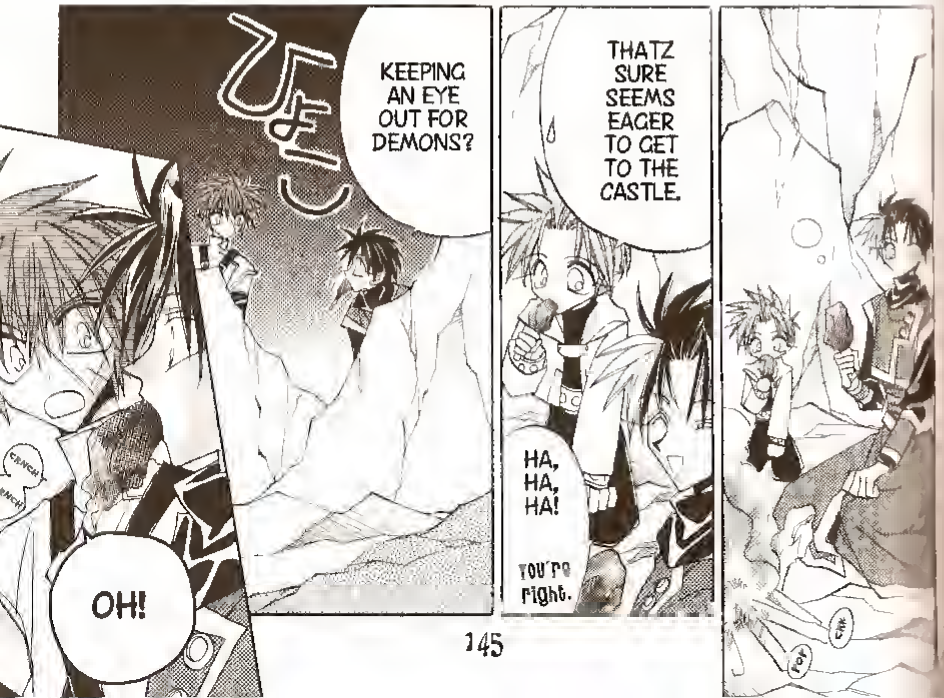
ITD BE QUICKER JUST TO KILL HER.
...TINTLET'S SPIRIT HAS BEEN RETURNED TO HER BODY.
WHICH MEANS THAT I CAN NO LONGER MANIPULATE IT WITH MY STRINGS.
WHAT TO DO? WHAT TO DO? I SUPPOSE I COULD ALWAYS JUST KNOCK THE BITCH OUT.
DAMN YOU, TINTLET.
ぶ～ら ぶ～ら

SHE MUST HAVE REAL GOOD EYESIGHT.
THE CASTLE ... KITCHEL CAN SEE IT FROM HERE?
I can't.
C'MON, RUNE!
COMING!
THIS WAY.


I'M NOT UPSET.
NOT ONE BIT.

I CAN SENSE IT.
LIM KAANA WILL FAIL.
WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR GAMES.
WELL, I'M NOT LEAVING IT UP TO HER.
SHYDEMAN WANTS THIS DONE NOW.
HMPH.
ONCE I HARNESS VARAWOO'S POWER...
...I CAN KILL RUNE, WHICH'LL MAKE IT A WHOLE LOT EASIER TO KILL TINTLET.
WHUMP
DID YOU HEAR ME?!
びー

UH...


KEEPING AN EYE OUT FOR DEMONS?
THATZ SURE SEEMS EAGER TO GET TO THE CASTLE.
HA, HA, HA!
YOU'RE right.
OH!

DAMN.

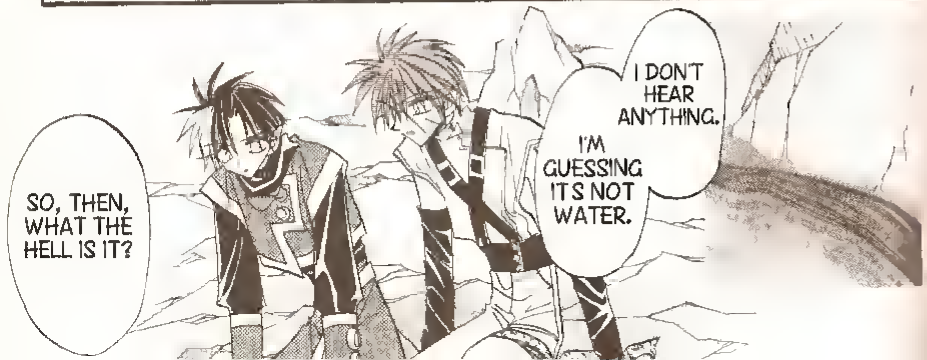
ARISE!
I SHALL HELP YOU AWAKEN.

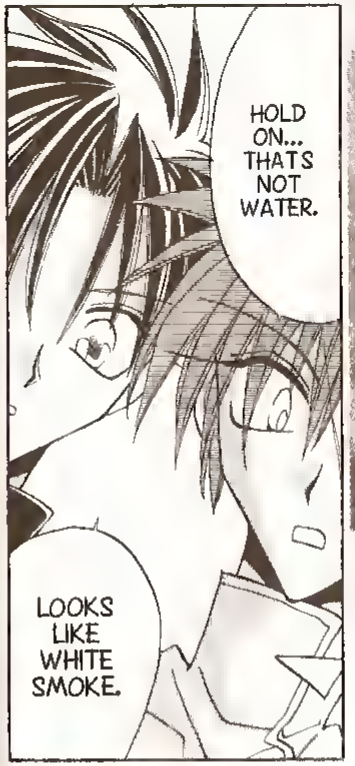
I can't help it. As an ex-con, I love this stuff.
YOU JUST LOVE BEING DRAMATIC, DON'T YOU?
You're getting all freaky over the fog.
DAMN STRAIGHT!
I DON'T KNOW.
WELL, THEN, WHAT IS IT?
HERE IT IS.
I'M MEEEH WHARIN FO UHWHII.
TRANSLATION. I'VE BEEN WATCHING FOR A WHILE.
DON'T TALK WITH YOUR MOUTH FULL.
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME DINNER WAS READY?!
C'MON! GIVE IT BACK!
DIDN'T YOU SMELL IT?
MUNCH MUNCH
UH... OKAY.
HMM...
THAT'S ODD.
THE FOG, RIGHT?
NO, IT'S NOT THE FOG.
SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT HERE.
SOMETHING'S STRANGE.

DON'T JUST RUN OFF LIKE THAT! WHAT IF THERE'S MORE OF THEM?!
It's just one demon.
THEN I'LL TAKE 'EM OUT.
WHAT ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT?!
GOING SOMEWHERE?

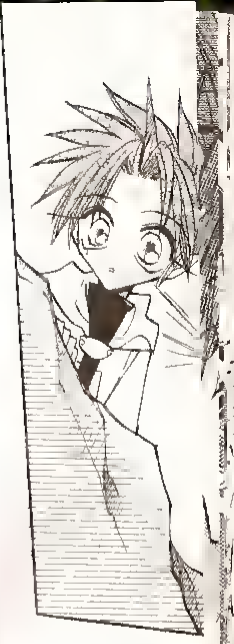
DISGUSTING LITTLE DEMON.
WHERE'D IT GO?!
HUH?
HEY!

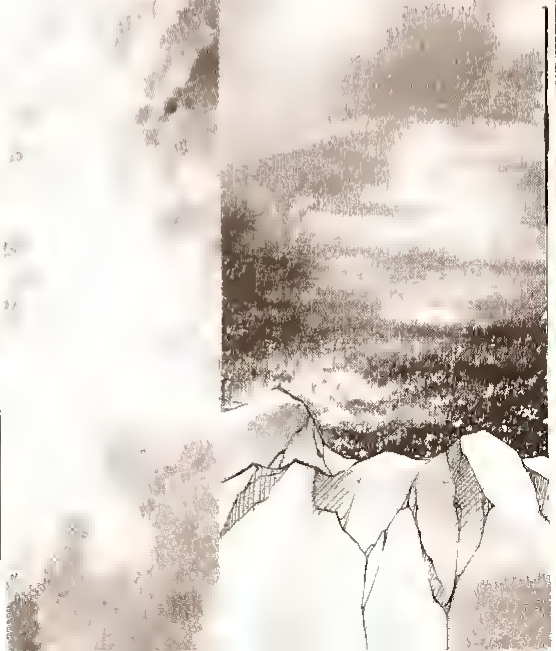
IT'S TOO QUIET.
WITH NORMAL WATER, WE'D BE ABLE TO HEAR WAVES CRASHING.

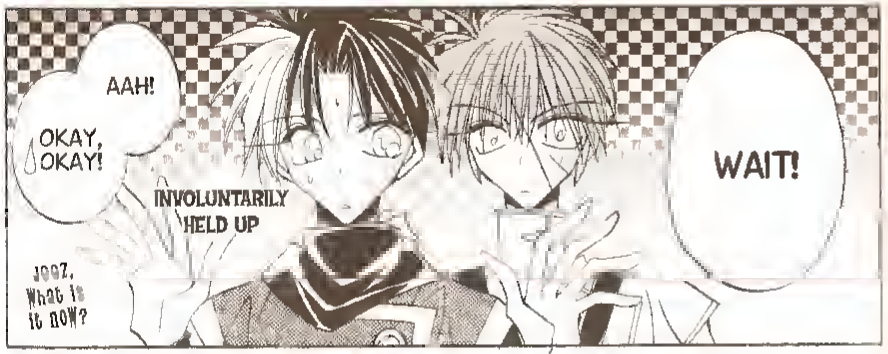

I DON'T HEAR ANYTHING.
I'M GUESSING IT'S NOT WATER.
SO, THEN, WHAT THE HELL IS IT?

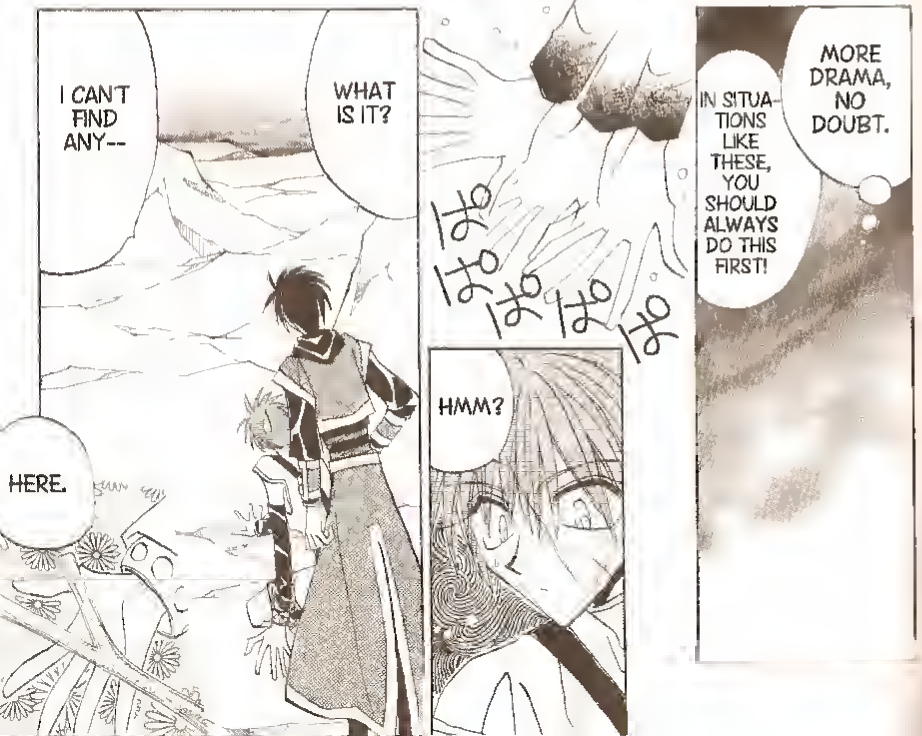

HOLD ON... THAT'S NOT WATER.
LOOKS LIKE WHITE SMOKE.

THAT'S WHAT WAS FREAKING ME OUT! NOT THE FOG--THE WATER!





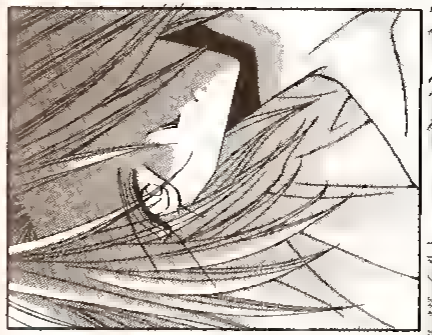

AAH!
OKAY, OKAY!
INVOLUNTARILY HELD UP
WAIT!
JOOZ. What is it now?

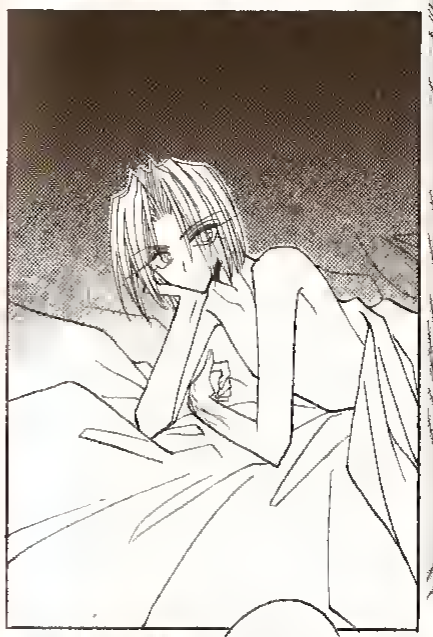

I CAN'T FIND ANY--
WHAT IS IT?
HERE.
HMM?
IN SITUATIONS LIKE THESE, YOU SHOULD ALWAYS DO THIS FIRST!
MORE DRAMA, NO DOUBT.

I'M GOING TO TOUCH IT.
.....
NO SHIT.
I mean other than that!
IT'S SILENT.

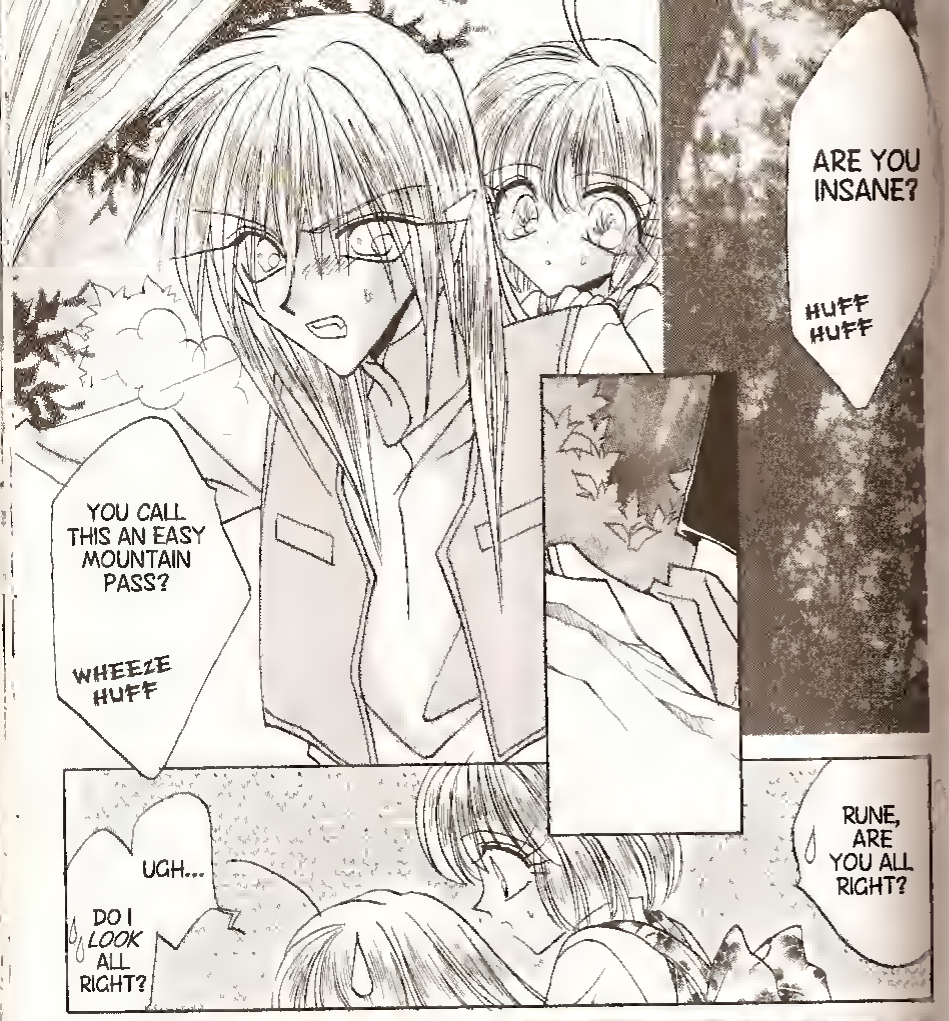
SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK?
UH...
I DON'T KNOW. THIS HASN'T HAPPENED BEFORE.
HEY!
THIS IS STUPID!
RATH!

OKAY, RATH, LISTEN AND OBSERVE. FIRST YOU FIND AN OBJECT LIKE THIS STICK, THEN...
I'M GOOD AT FINDING STUFF ON THE GROUND.
HOW'D YOU FIND THIS, ZOMA?
WERE YOU LOOKING FOR SOMETHING LIKE THIS?
SNAP
YEAH! THAT'LL DO QUITE NICELY!
...YOU THROW IT INTO THE ABYSS!
CREEPY.
IT DIDN'T MAKE A SOUND.
UH, GUYS...
YOU'RE KINDA CREEPY.





I'VE RESTED FOR LONG ENOUGH.
I DO BELIEVE IT'S TIME TO HEAD BACK OUT.


ARE YOU INSANE?
HUFF HUFF
YOU CALL THIS AN EASY MOUNTAIN PASS?
WHEEZE HUFF
RUNE, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
UGH...
DO I *LOOK* ALL RIGHT?

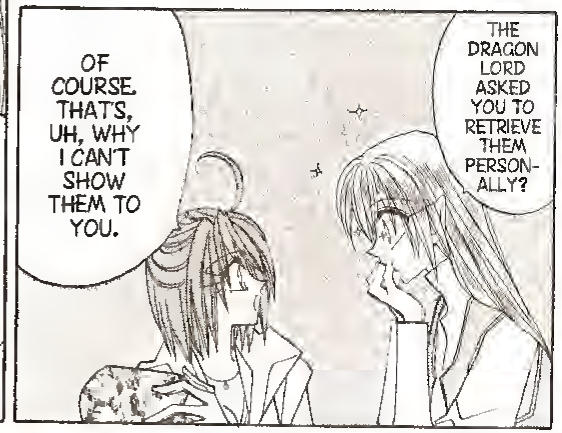
I JUST SAID THE OTHER WAY WAS STEEPER.
TRUST ME. THIS WAY IS MUCH BETTER.
.....
I NEVER SAID THIS WAS AN EASY MOUNTAIN PASS.

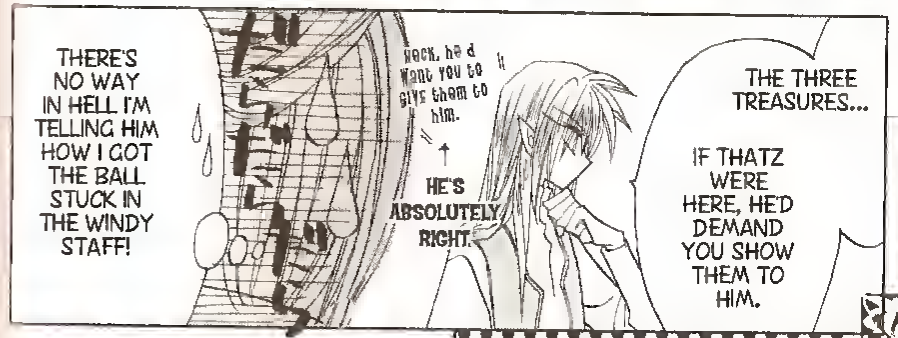
HUH?
ME, QUIET?
WHAT'S WRONG? WHY SO QUIET?
YOU *DID* FIND THE THREE TREASURES, DIDN'T YOU? WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM?
YES, AND YOU HAVE A GUILTY LOOK IN YOUR EYES. YOU HIDING SOMETHING, KITCHEL?
No Worries
THE DRAGON LORD ASKED ME TO RETRIEVE THEM PERSONALLY.
THE TREASURES ARE SAFE! I HAVE THEM STASHED AWAY IN HERE!

C'MON, MAN! I WANNA SEE THE DRAGON AGAIN!
You don't wanna see, you wanna ride it!
You're already seen it!
Water dragon!
pretty please!
LOOK AT OUR SURROUND-INGS!
This is enemy territory!
I HAVE AN IDEA!
NO! WE'RE NOT USING THE WATER DRAGON!
BUT I WANT TO CARRY YOU.
Besides, you're as light as a feather.
I'LL BE OKAY YOU CAN PUT ME DOWN NOW.
WELL THEN, LET'S TAKE A BREATHER.
SHE DOESN'T KNOW THE DANGER WE'RE IN.
UH...
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE TREASURES?
KITCHEL, LAST I HEARD, YOU WERE LOOKING FOR THE THREE TREASURES WITH THATZ, RIGHT?

?
CREEP
CREEP
ちら

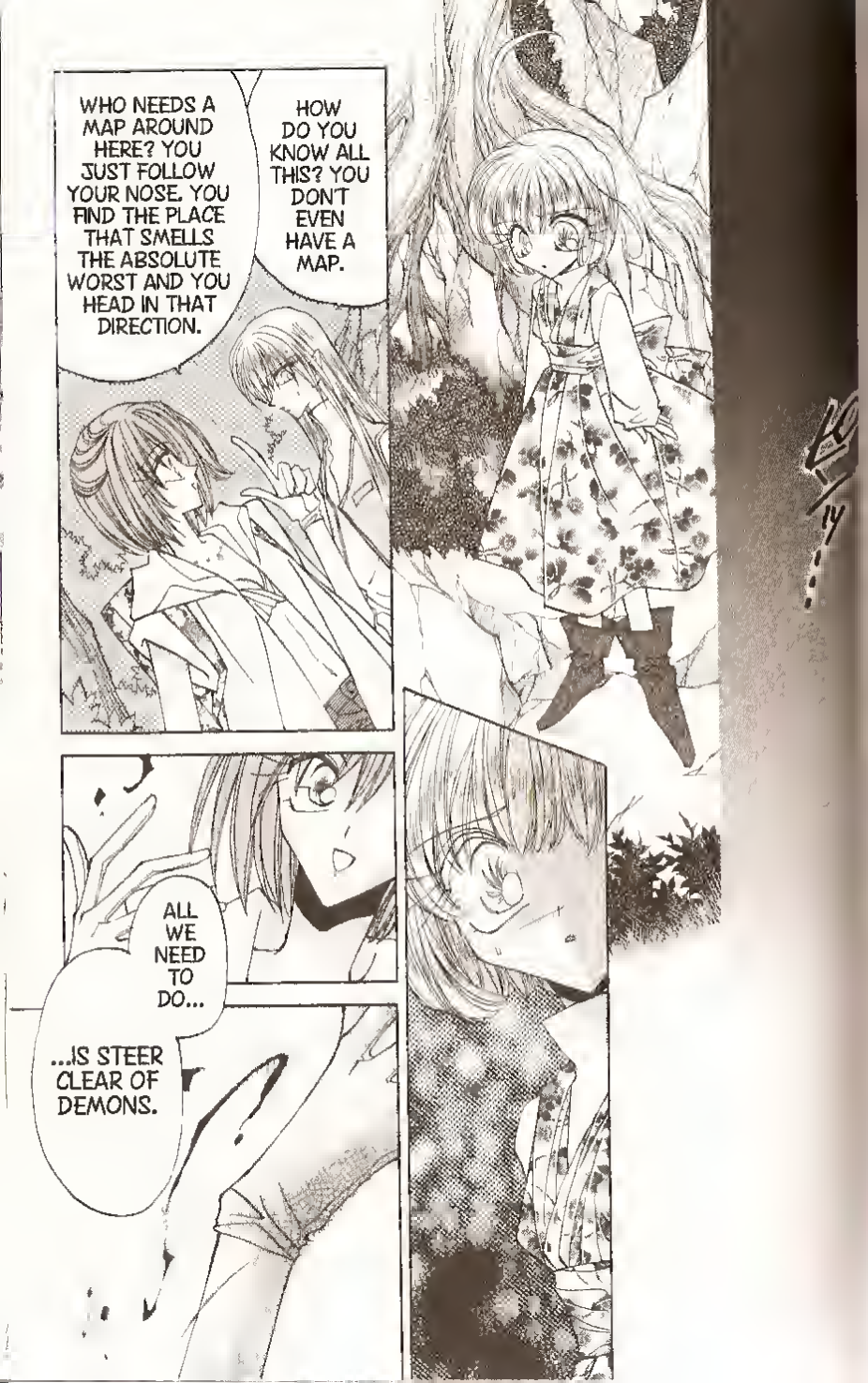
OKAY.
THEN WE'VE GOT TO MAKE SURE SOME DEMON DOESN'T RUN OFF WITH THEM.
pretty!


OF COURSE. THAT'S, UH, WHY I CAN'T SHOW THEM TO YOU.
THE DRAGON LORD ASKED YOU TO RETRIEVE THEM PERSONALLY?

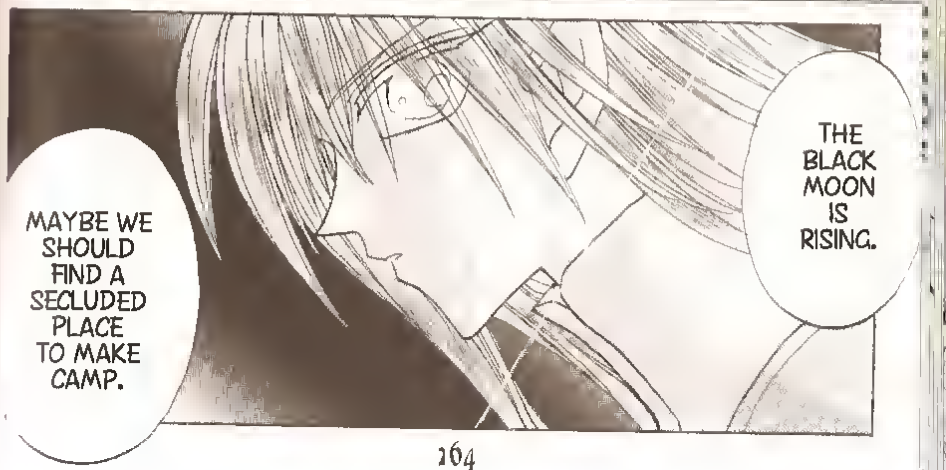

THERE'S NO WAY IN HELL I'M TELLING HIM HOW I GOT THE BALL STUCK IN THE WINDY STAFF!
Heck, he'd want you to give them to him.
HE'S ABSOLUTELY RIGHT.
THE THREE TREASURES...
IF THATZ WERE HERE, HE'D DEMAND YOU SHOW THEM TO HIM.

EH, IT DOESN'T REALLY CONCERN ME.
BREAK TIME'S OVER.
I WONDER WHAT IT DOES.
COME TO THINK OF IT, ZOMA SAID HE WAS TAKING THIS TO CESIA.

LEAVE THAT ALONE!!!
WHAT? YOU MEAN I CAN'T SEE THIS EITHER?
but it's not one of the three treasures.
NO, IT'S ME, UH... SPARE.
in case one of the treasures gets lost.
YOU'RE ALWAYS SO CAREFUL WITH THIS STAFF.

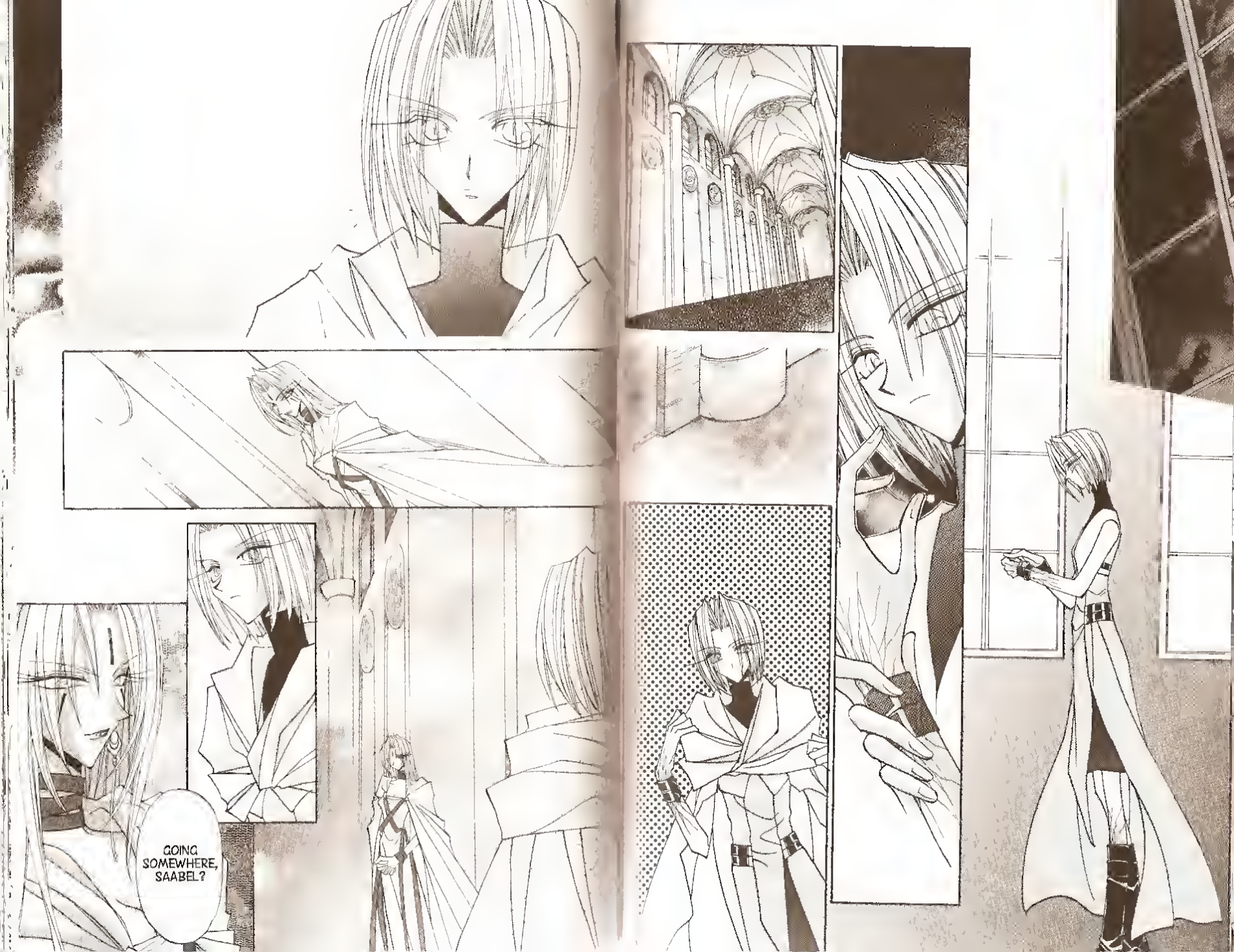

HOW DO YOU KNOW ALL THIS? YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE A MAP.
WHO NEEDS A MAP AROUND HERE? YOU JUST FOLLOW YOUR NOSE. YOU FIND THE PLACE THAT SMELLS THE ABSOLUTE WORST AND YOU HEAD IN THAT DIRECTION.
ALL WE NEED TO DO...
...IS STEER CLEAR OF DEMONS.

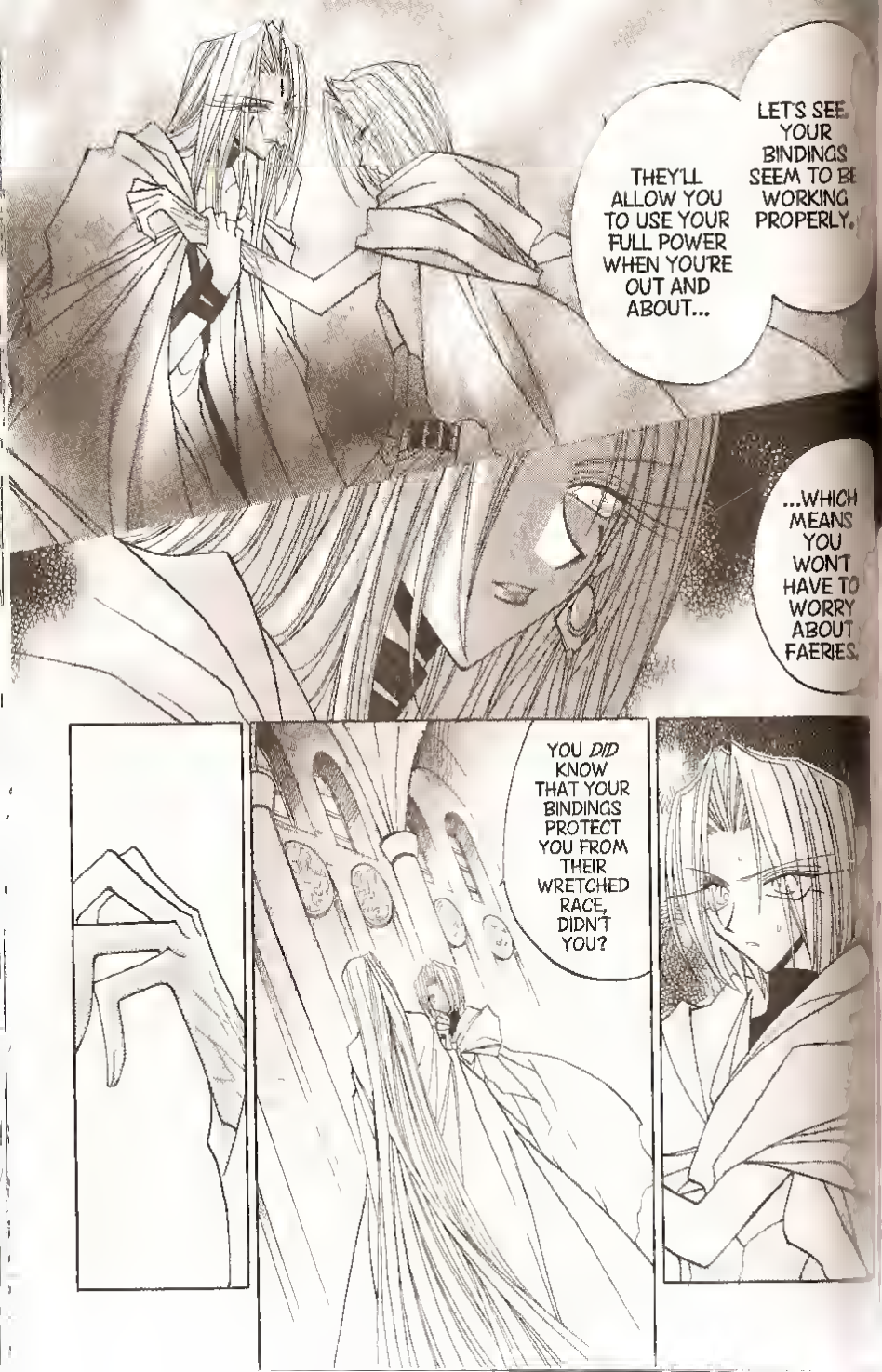
WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?
WE SHOULD KEEP HEADING IN THE SAME DIRECTION.
I JUST HAVE TO FIGURE OUT WHICH ROUTE TO TAKE.


THE BLACK MOON IS RISING.
MAYBE WE SHOULD FIND A SECLUDED PLACE TO MAKE CAMP.

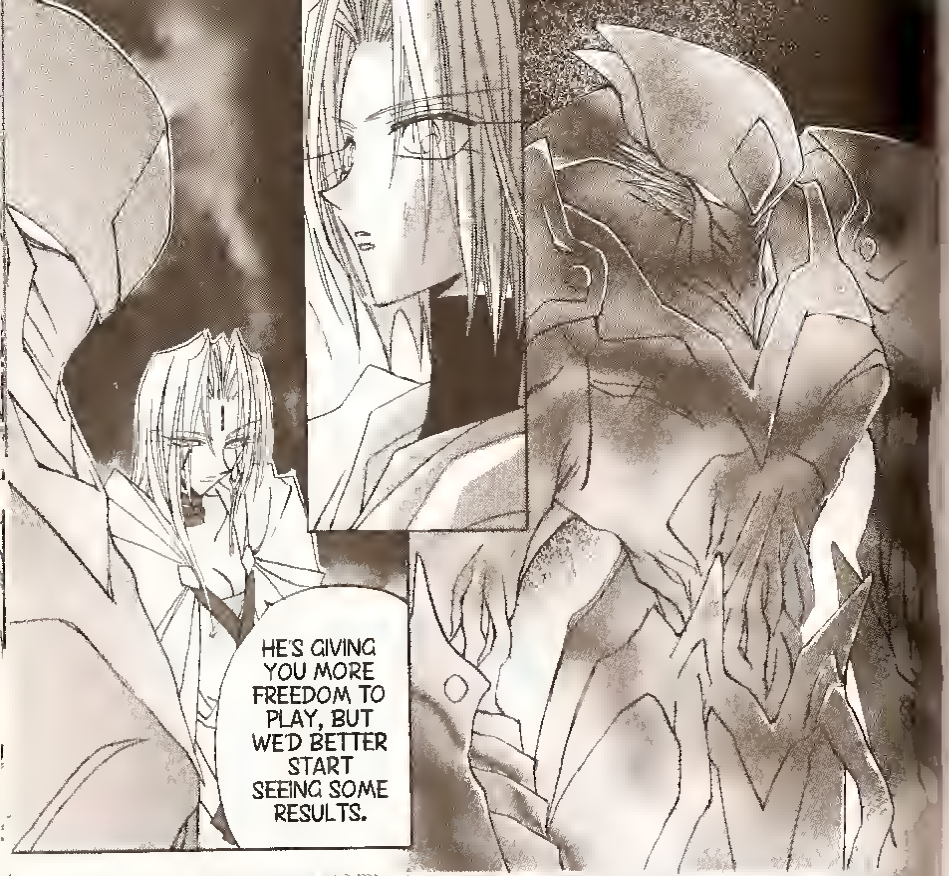
RUNE!

THE THREAD!

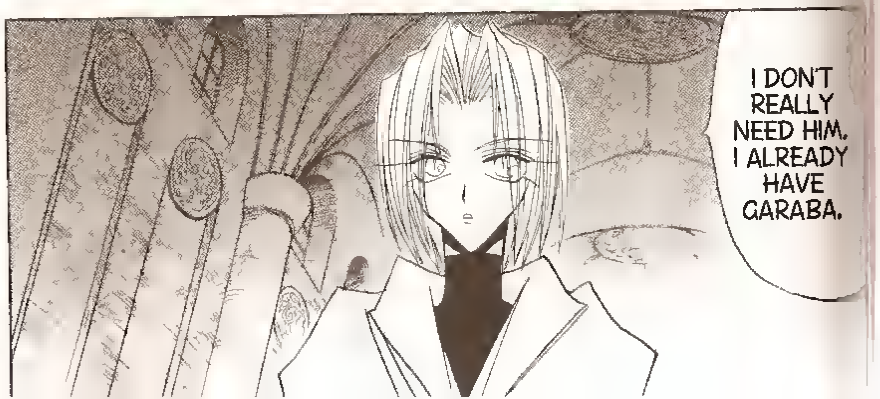

GOING SOMEWHERE, SAABEL?

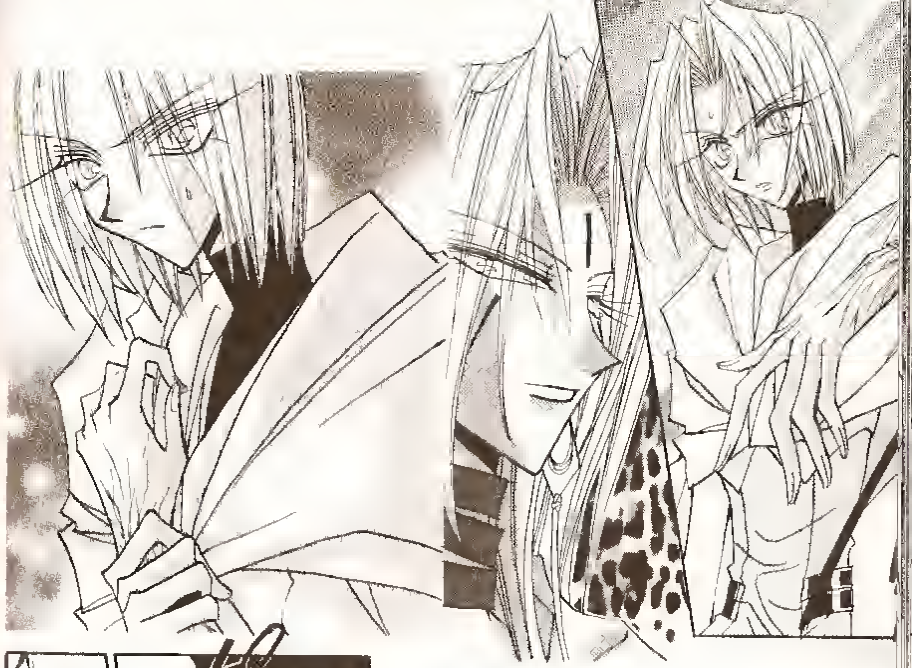

LET'S SEE. YOUR BINDINGS SEEM TO BE WORKING PROPERLY.
THEY'LL ALLOW YOU TO USE YOUR FULL POWER WHEN YOU'RE OUT AND ABOUT...
...WHICH MEANS YOU WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT FAERIES.
YOU DID KNOW THAT YOUR BINDINGS PROTECT YOU FROM THEIR WRETCHED RACE, DIDN'T YOU?

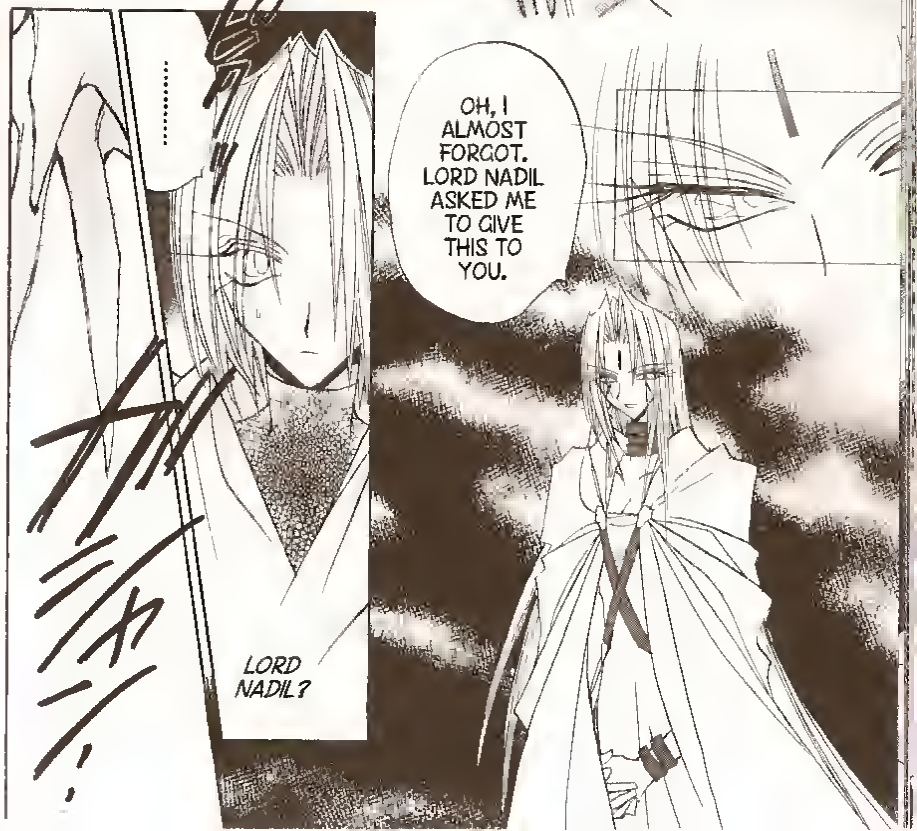
?
BORED ...?
YEAH. I'M OFF TO COLLECT SOME DEAD BODIES. I'M BORED TO DEATH HERE.
SO, YOU'RE LEAVING THE PREMISES.
!!

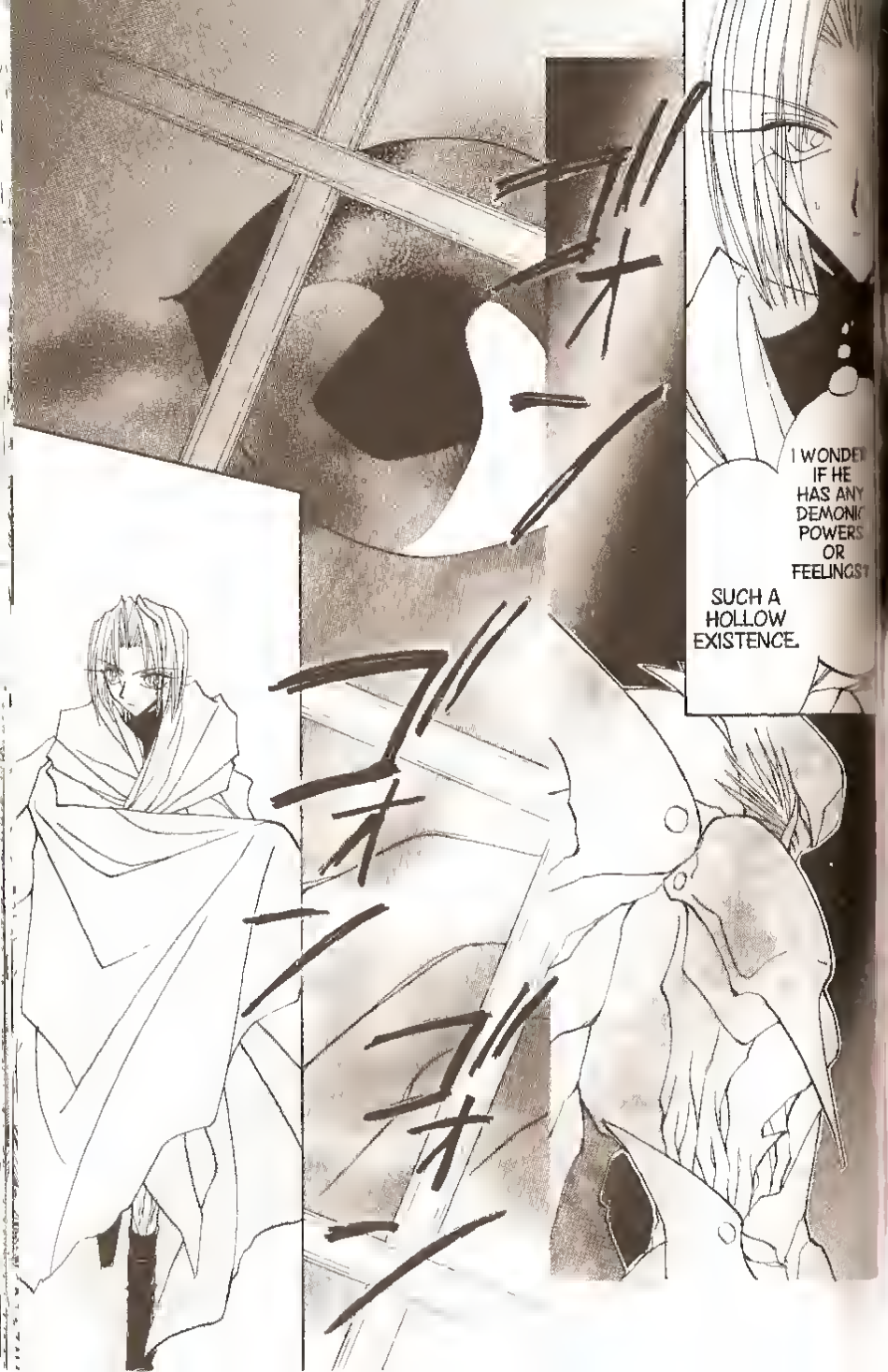

HE'S GIVING YOU MORE FREEDOM TO PLAY, BUT WE'D BETTER START SEEING SOME RESULTS.

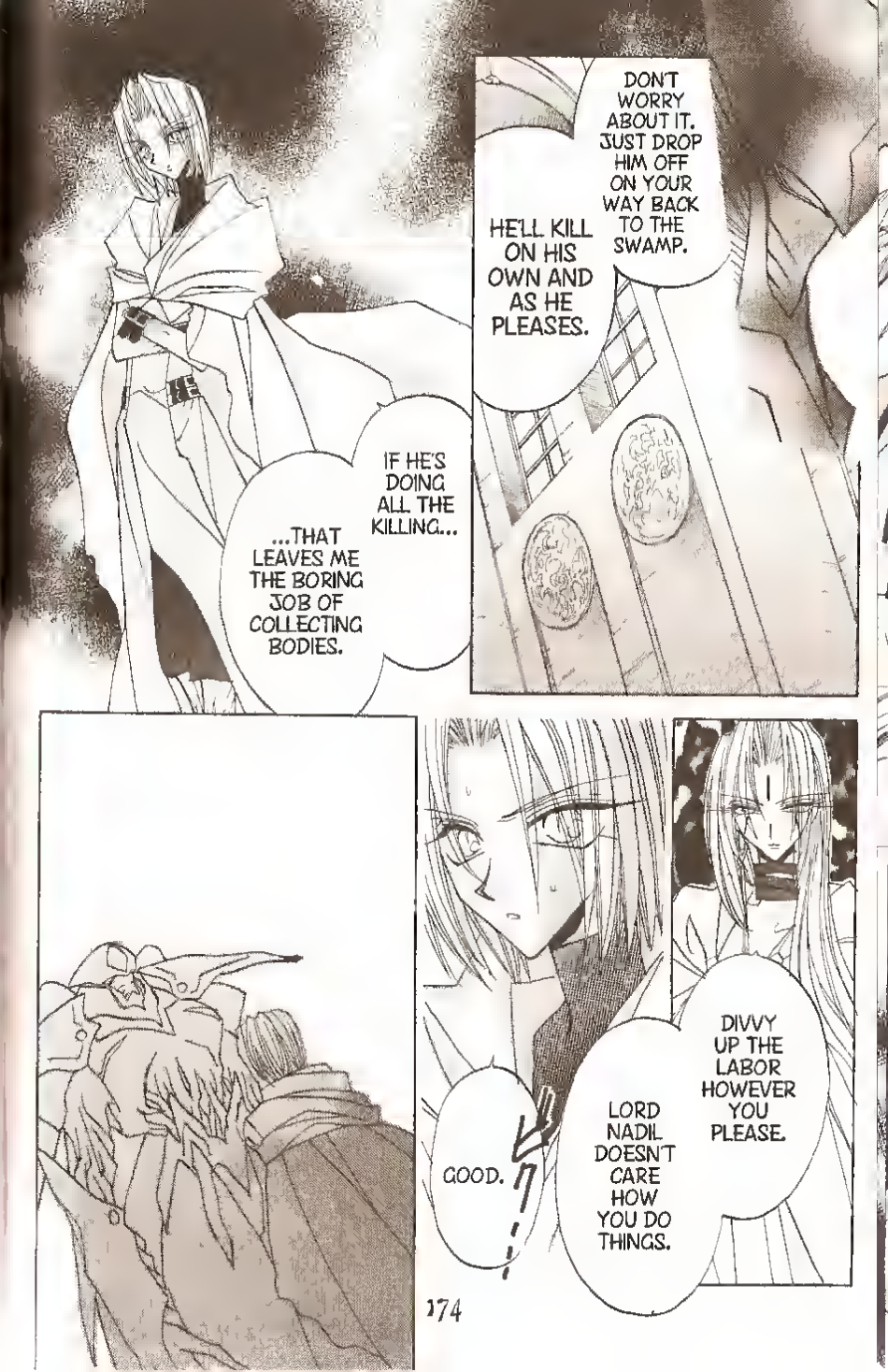
CRAP.

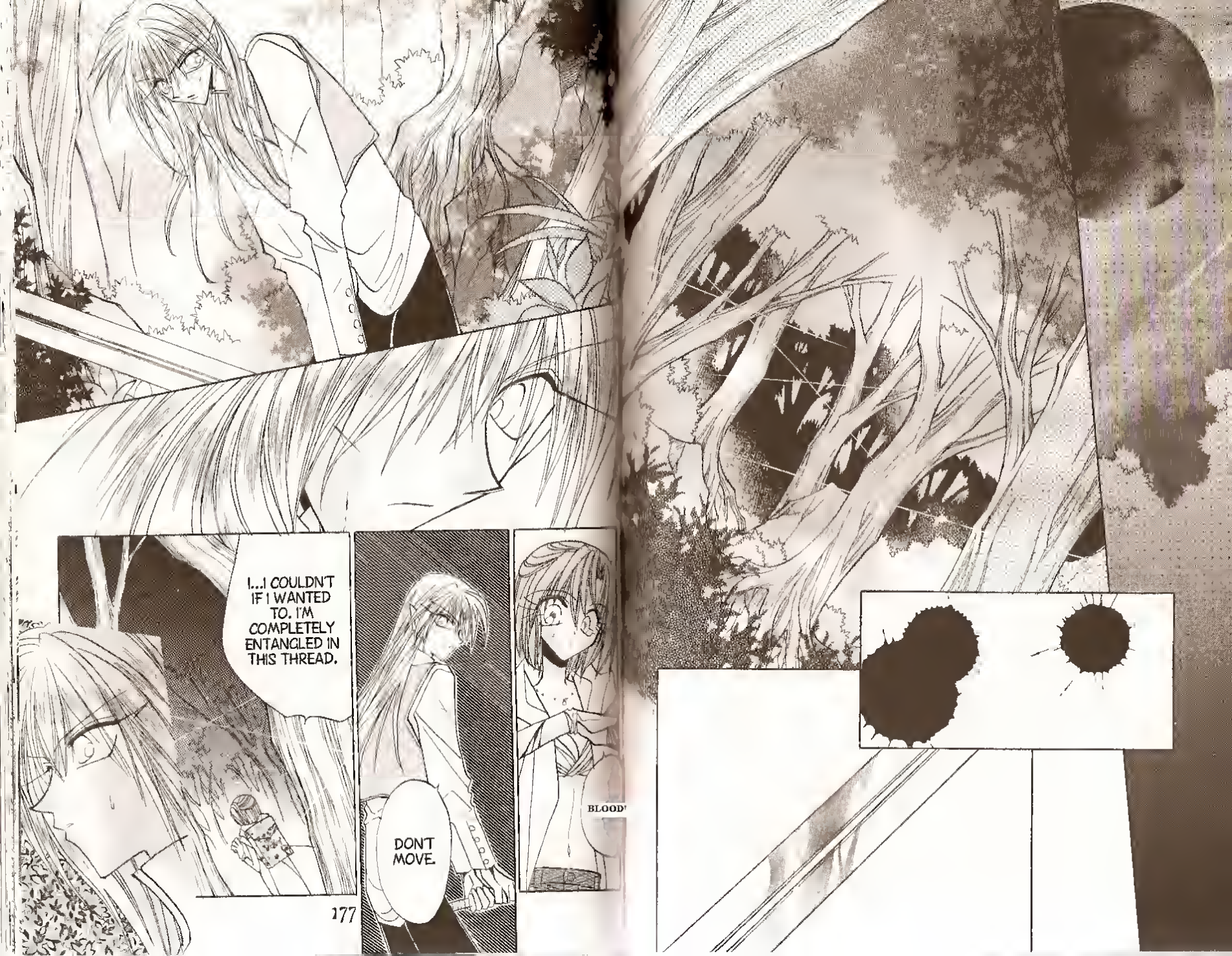

I DON'T REALLY NEED HIM. I ALREADY HAVE GARABA.



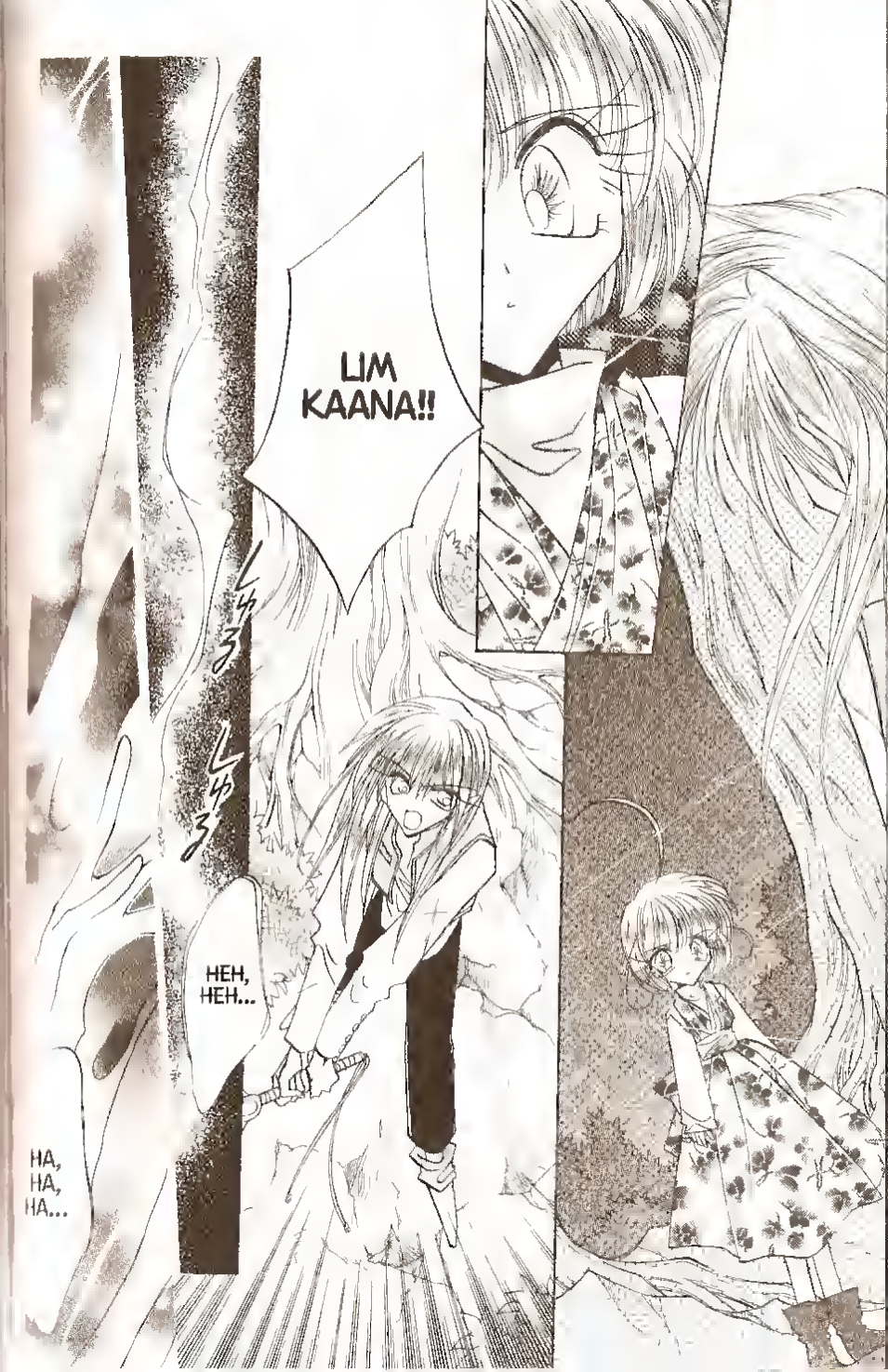

.....
LORD NADIL?
OH, I ALMOST FORGOT. LORD NADIL ASKED ME TO GIVE THIS TO YOU.


I WONDER IF HE HAS ANY DEMONIC POWERS OR FEELINGS?
SUCH A HOLLOW EXISTENCE.


DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. JUST DROP HIM OFF ON YOUR WAY BACK TO THE SWAMP.
HE'LL KILL ON HIS OWN AND AS HE PLEASES.
IF HE'S DOING ALL THE KILLING...
...THAT LEAVES ME THE BORING JOB OF COLLECTING BODIES.
DIVVY UP THE LABOR HOWEVER YOU PLEASE.
LORD NADIL DOESN'T CARE HOW YOU DO THINGS.
GOOD.


I...I COULDN'T IF I WANTED TO. I'M COMPLETELY ENTANGLED IN THIS THREAD.
DON'T MOVE.
BLOOD!

I'M TOUCHED, RUNE.
WHUMP!
YOU KNEW IT WAS ME. HOW SWEET!
I DIDN'T EXPECT TO SEE YOU AGAIN SO SOON.


LIM KAANA!!
HEH, HEH...
HA, HA, HA...

WAIT...
RUNE!!

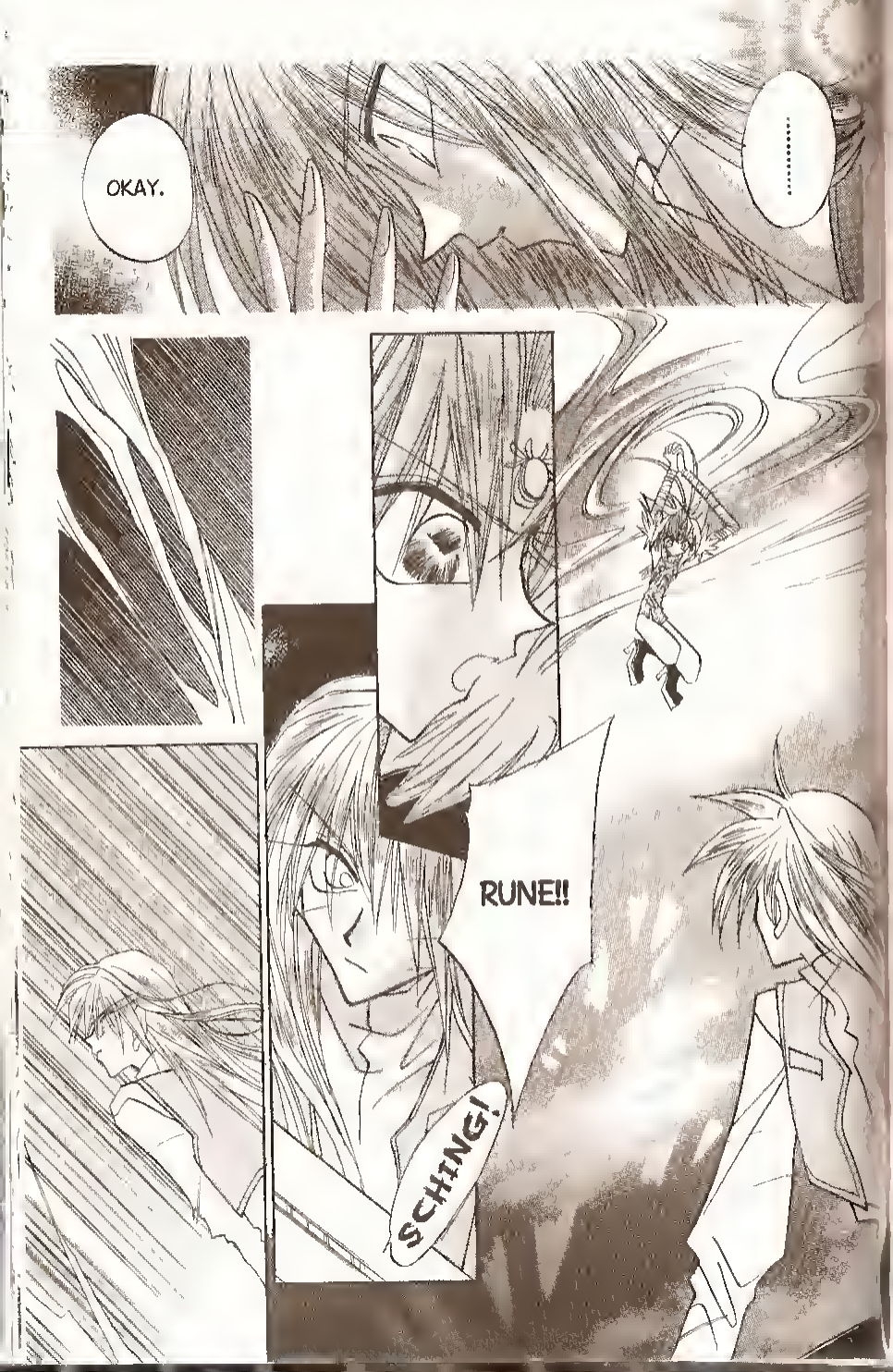
WHAT CAN I SAY? THE KNOWLEDGE THAT TINTLET IS STILL ALIVE IS JUST DRIVING ME BATTY!
CUT IT OUT!
YOU SEE, SHE'S IN MY WAY.

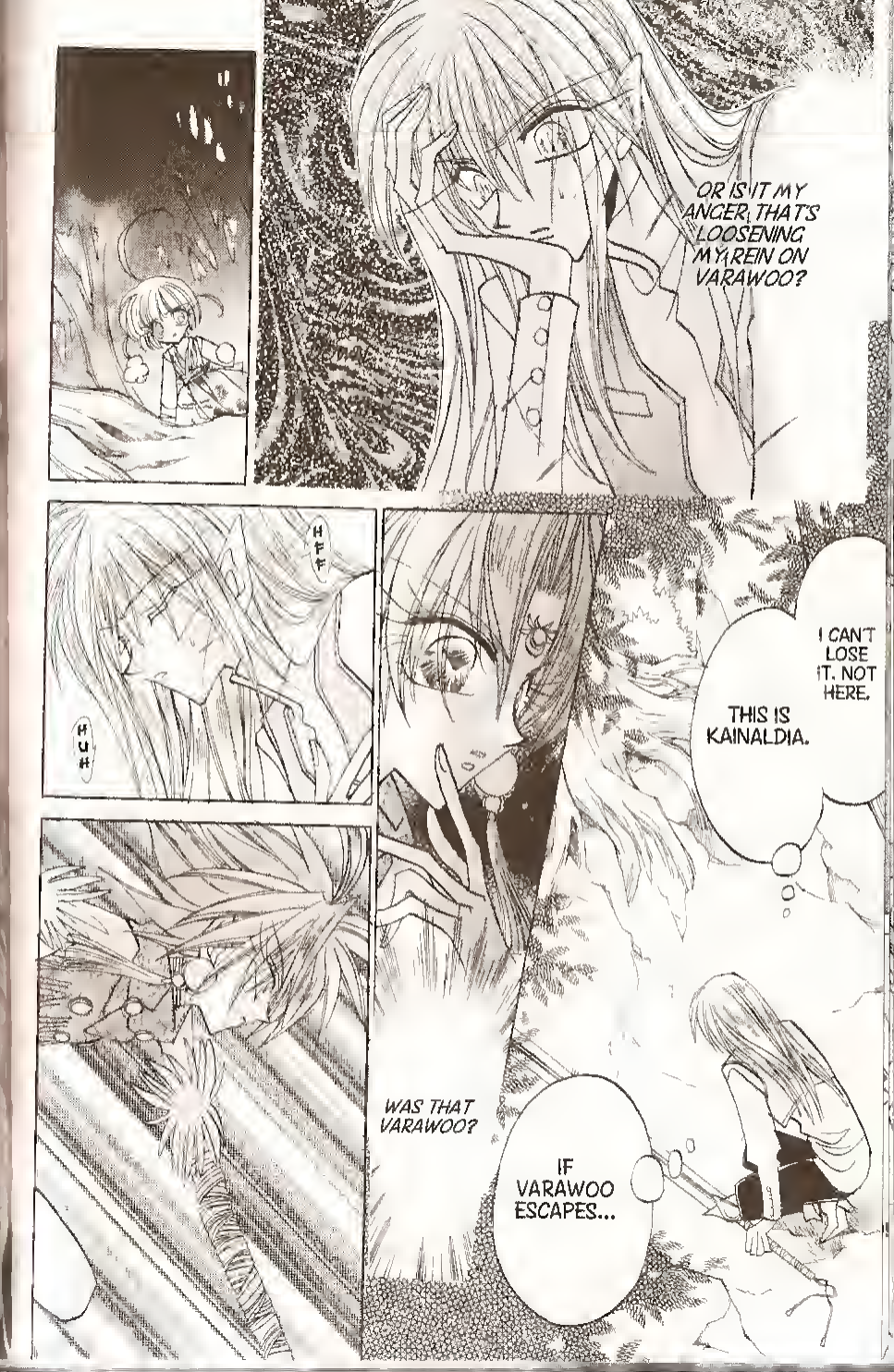
I'M WORRIED ABOUT RUNE.
DO YOU THINK HE'S WORRIED ABOUT ME, TOO?
THIS STUFF IS EXTREMELY DANGEROUS.
IT COULD SLICE YOUR HEAD CLEAN OFF.
I DOUBT YOU CAN DO THAT WITH HER THREAD AROUND YOUR NECK.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
HIS EYES...
THERE'S FIRE WITHIN THEM.

OH NO.
DID I MAKE YOU MAD?
YOU HAVE TINTLET'S MEMORY.
GIVE IT BACK AND I MIGHT LET YOU LIVE.
HEY, TINTLET!
CAN YOU GET FREE?
.....
NO, I DON'T THINK SO. MAYBE I SHOULD JUST MORPH BACK TO NORMAL.

!!
SHIT...
IS IT BECAUSE WE'RE IN KAINALDIA?
I'M LOSING CONTROL OF VARAWOO'S POWER.

AAAAAH!
RUNE!!
THE THREAD!

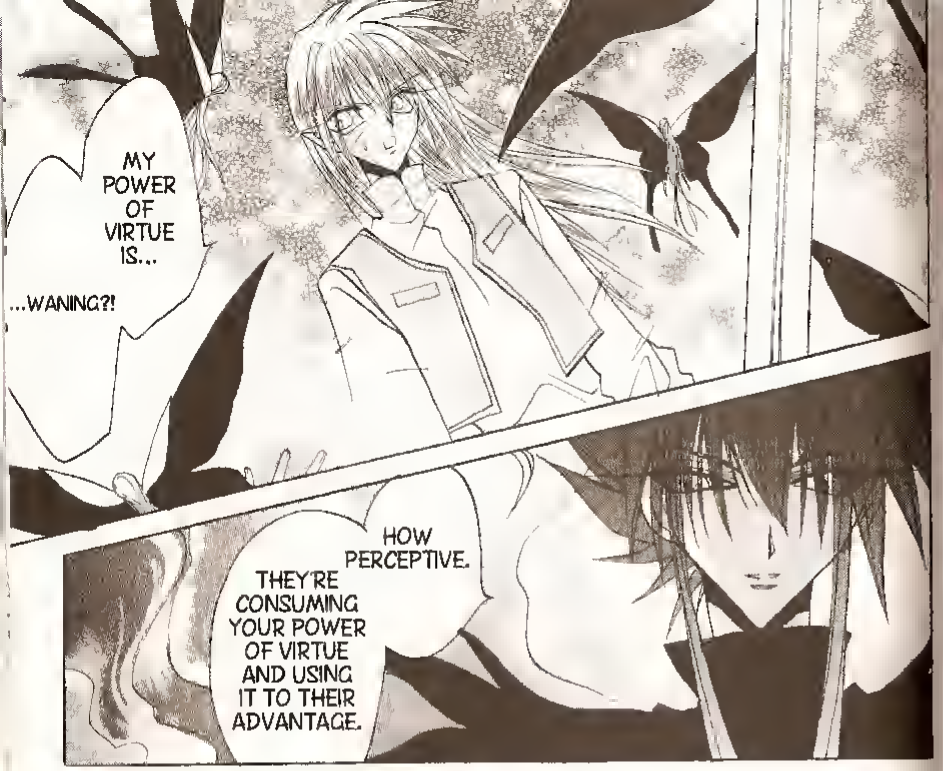

OKAY.
.....
RUNE!!
SCHING!

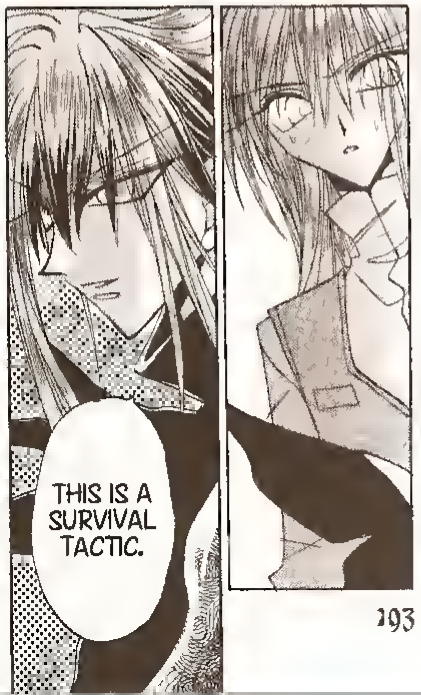

OR IS IT MY ANGER THAT'S LOOSENING MY REIN ON VARAWOO?
HFF
HUH
I CAN'T LOSE IT. NOT HERE.
THIS IS KAINALDIA.
WAS THAT VARAWOO?
IF VARAWOO ESCAPES...

...I HAD NO INTENTION OF HARMING YOU.
OF COURSE, THAT WAS *BEFORE* YOU TRIED MURDERING TINTLET.
SLOW DOWN, TINTLET!
HFF
HUH
BY THE FAERIE'S POWER OF VIRTUE...
...YOU WILL CAST AWAY THIS WAKING LIFE AND FALL ASLEEP.
WHAT IS RUNE DOING?

!?
IT'S GOING TO TAKE A BIT MORE THAN THAT TO CAUSE ME TO LOSE CONTROL OF VARAWOO.
SORRY TO DISAPPOINT.
I'VE MADE IT MY MISSION TO GET TINTLET'S MEMORY BACK...
BUT...
HFF
HFF

I DON'T THINK SO.

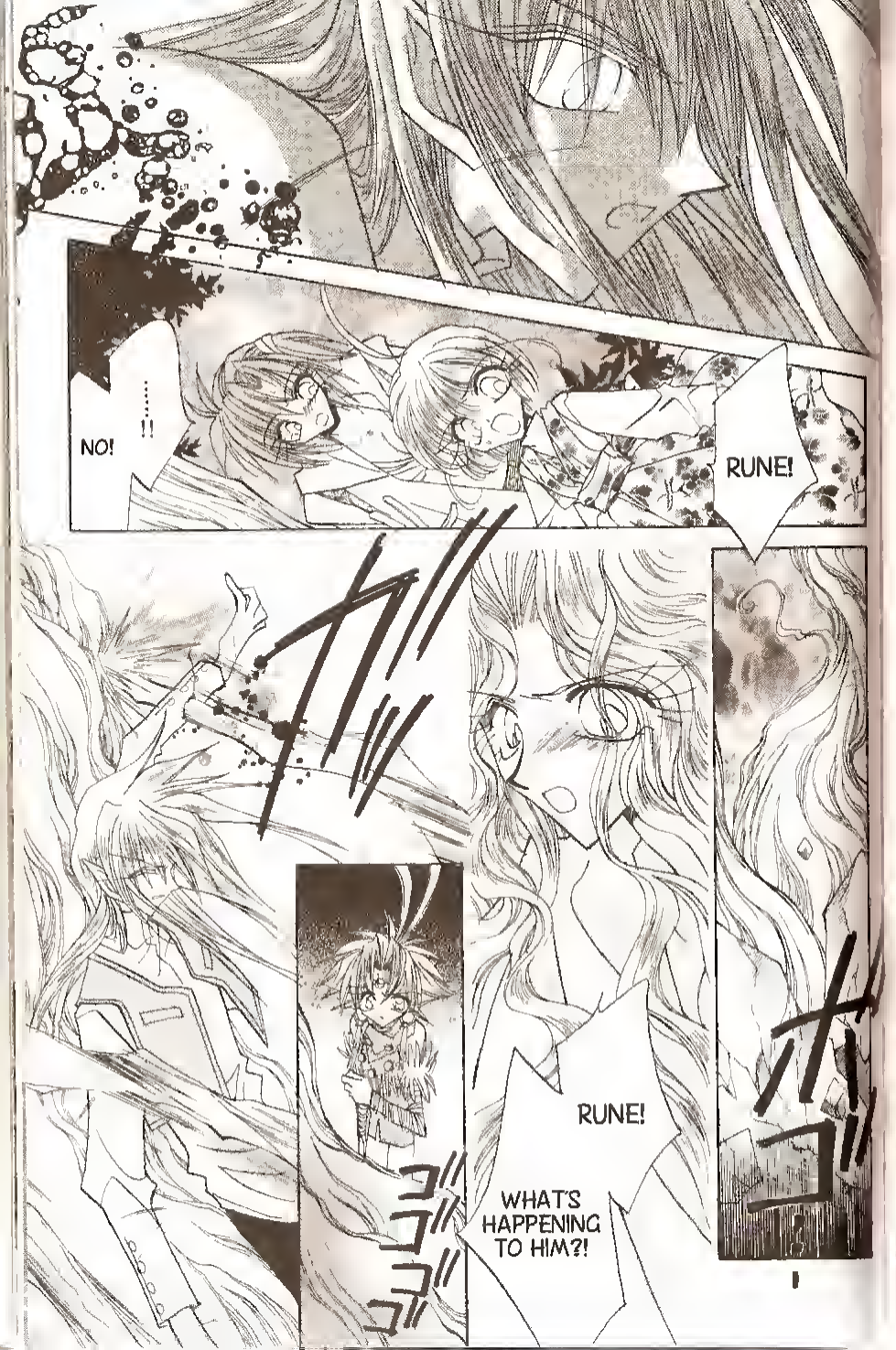

MY POWER OF VIRTUE IS...
...WANING?!
HOW PERCEPTIVE.
THEY'RE CONSUMING YOUR POWER OF VIRTUE AND USING IT TO THEIR ADVANTAGE.


THIS IS A SURVIVAL TACTIC.

YOU SEE, THE BLACK FAERIES OF KAINALDIA LACK THE POWER OF VIRTUE THEMSELVES.

TINTLET, TAKE COVER!
#7
WHAT?! BLACK FAERIES?!

WHO IS THAT DEMON?


NO!
.....!!
RUNE!
RUNE!
WHAT'S HAPPENING TO HIM?!

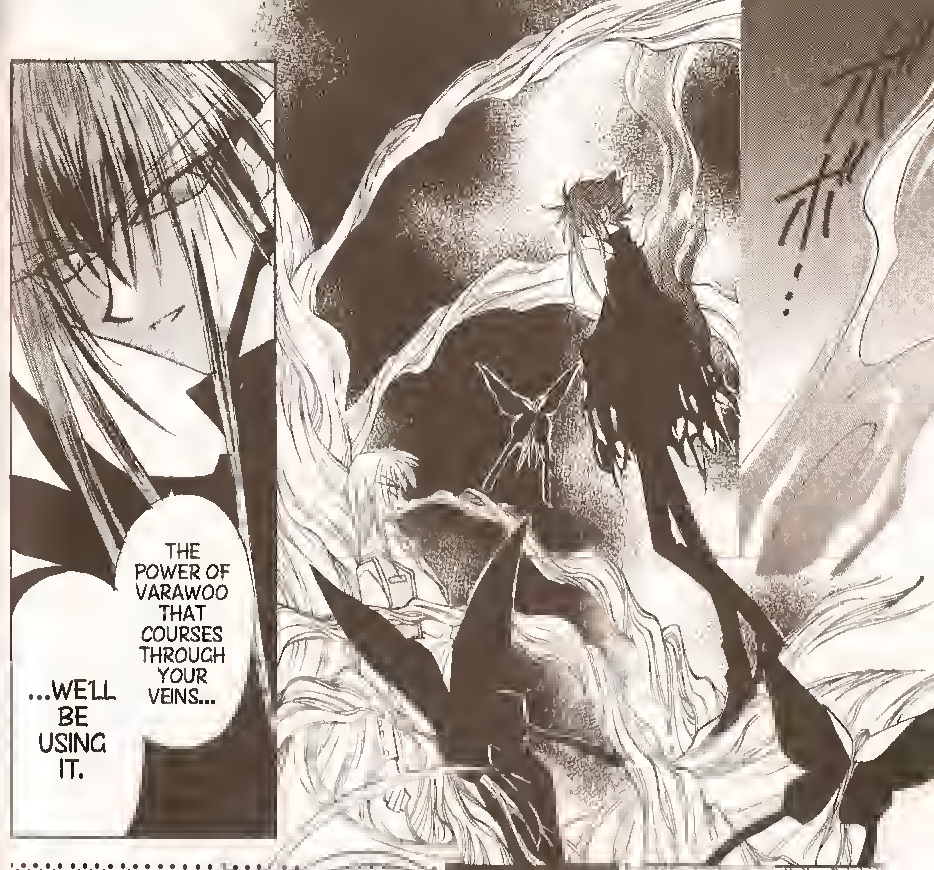
Dragon Knights

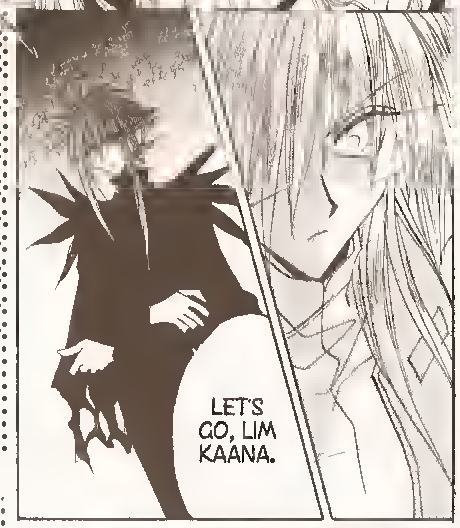
17

In Volume 17:

Captured and imprisoned, things aren't looking good for our Dragon Knight of Water, and while Rune faces the terror of uncertainty, Rath and Thatz have far worse horrors to contend with outside the castle. The mysterious white haze surrounding Nadil's palace is no ordinary fog. It's a sinister trap of human souls making the castle impenetrable to all who oppose Nadil. It's a formidable obstacle, but with the situation looking grim for all three Dragon Knights, hope arrives in two entirely unexpected places. As desperation sets in, an enemy will become a friend, and a former ally will return from the grave...

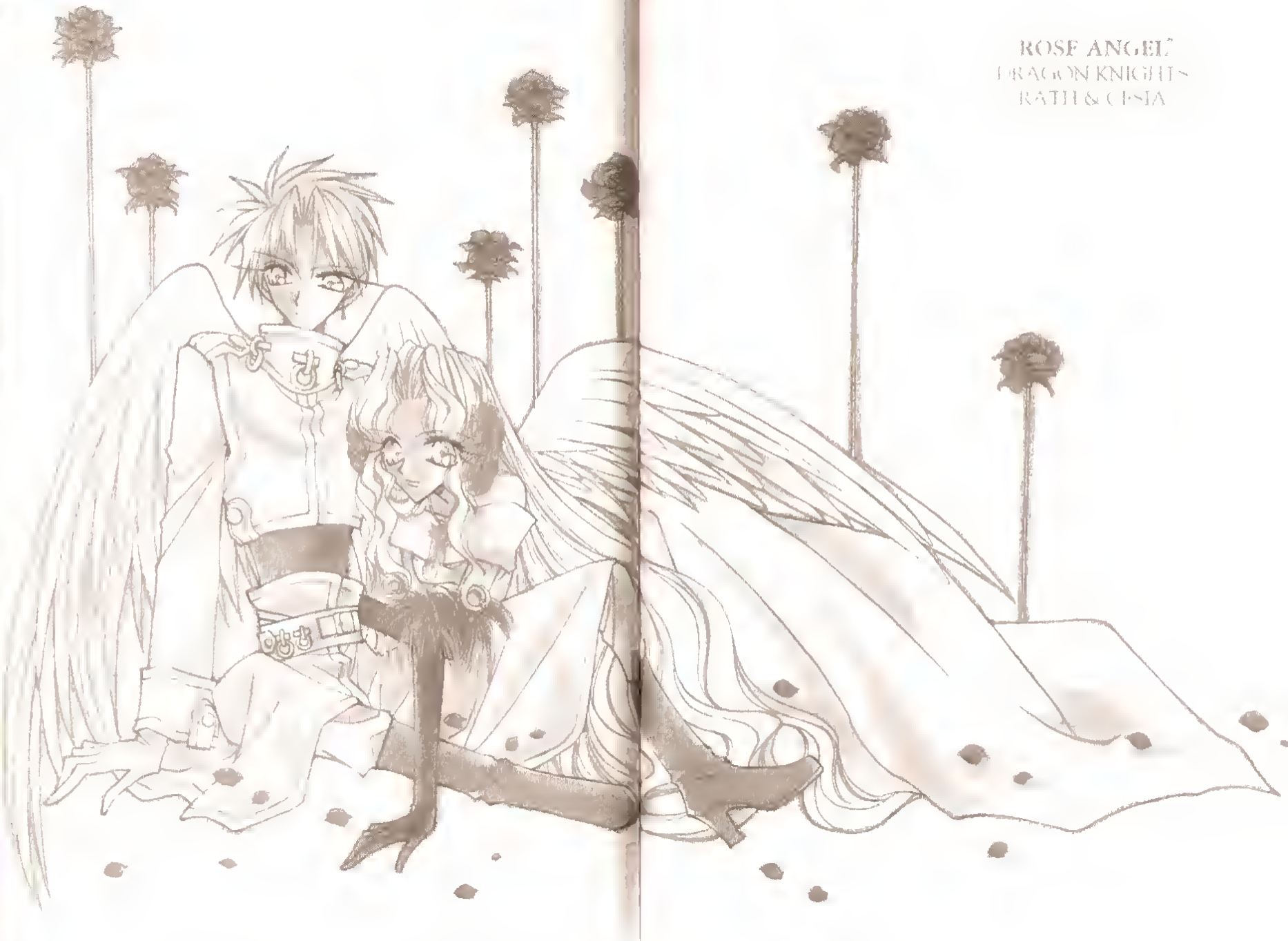
Mineko Ohkami





Dragon Knights 16 End

ROSE ANGEL
DRAGON KNIGHTS
RATH & CESIA



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Dragon Knights™

Our heroic trio divided, it now falls on Rath and Thatz to rescue Cesia. Rune, meanwhile, must deal with the feisty little demon Lim Kaana. Lim Kaana wants Varawoo's power and she possesses a mighty bargaining chip–Tintlet's memory. The stakes are high, the lines are drawn, but which side will emerge victorious?

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